

Volume 2, No. 2

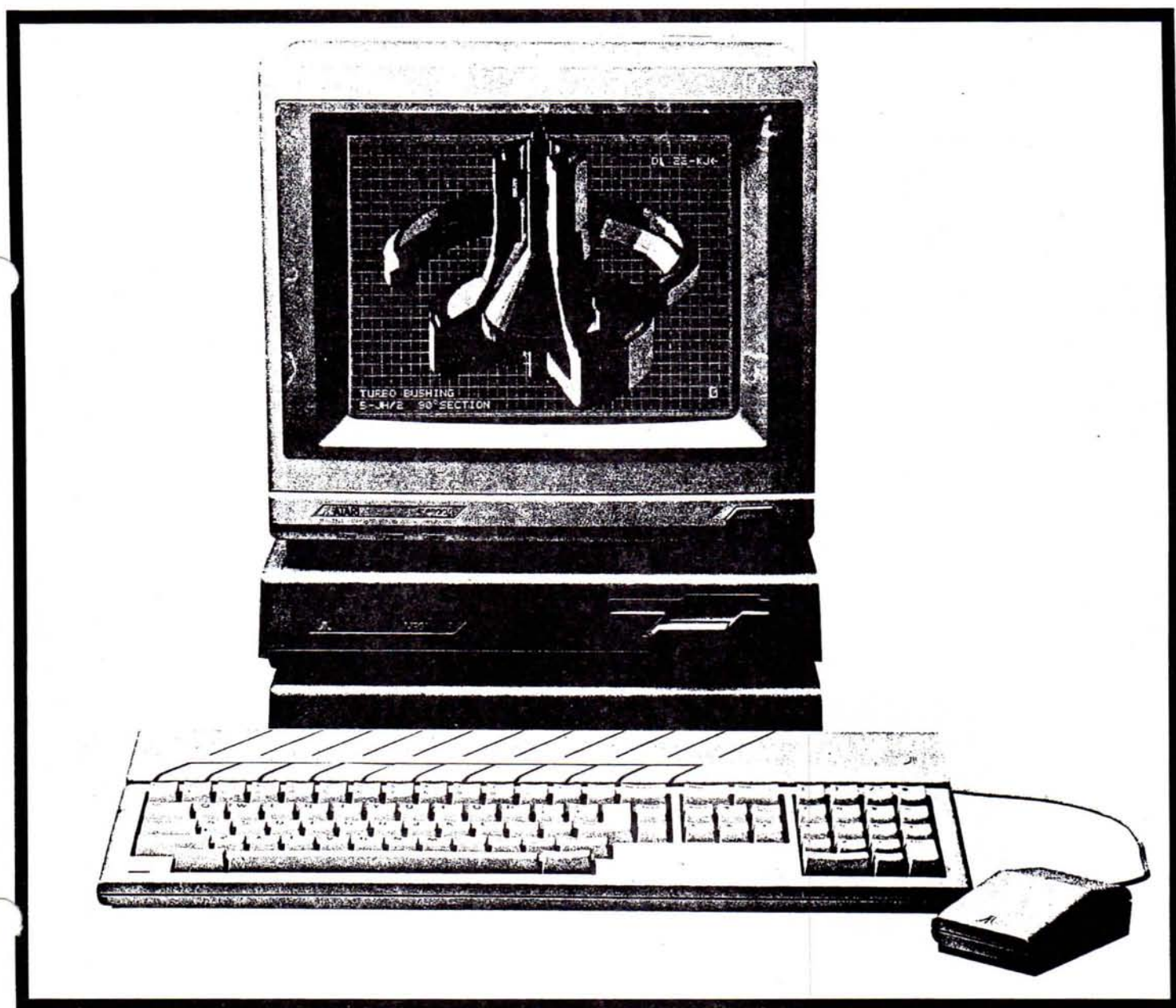
Fall 1987

J Jackintosh
B Boston
U Users
G Group



↓ The
↑ Boston
→ Computer
← Society

A Publication of The Boston Computer Society for Atari ST Users



The Mega ST

In This Issue: ATARIFEST WORCESTER '87

J-BUG NEWSLETTER

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Table of Contents

Officer List	2
Disclaimer	3
From the Bridge	3
Meeting Formats	3
Northeast Atarifest	4
Seminars	17
Prize Vendors	17
Prize Winners	20
Volunteers	22
Meeting Schedule	7
Seminars	
Neil Harris	23
Word Processing	26
True Basic	26
Atari Comdex Report	28
FCC On-Line Charges	32
Your New Managing Editor	33
Advertisiners Index	34
BCS Membership Aplication	35

Deadlines

for the next Issue of

J - BUG

Advertising

January 15, 1988

Copy

January 22, 1988

J-BUG Newsletter is published by The Jackintosh BoSTon Users Group, The Atari ST Users Group of The Boston Computer Society, and is a publication of

The Boston Computer Society
One Center Plaza
Boston, Ma 02108
(617) 367-8080

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Any and all opinions expressed in this publication are the views of the authors so named and in no way necessarily reflect the viewpoints, attitudes of policies of either The Boston Computer Society, The Jackintosh BoSTon Users Group, or the staff of this newsletter unless so stated or indicated.

Subscription is free with membership in The Boston Computer Society or in exchange for a free subscription to the newsletter of any other Atari Users Group.

J-Bug will be published Bi-monthly. Publications will represent January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, and November/December.

J-Bug welcomes contributions of articles, reviews, and other materials related to the Atari ST Computer products. Material should be submitted on disk (hopefully 3 1/2 inch) and typed form and sent to the Editor (see officer list). If you have a modem you may submit material - text files, graphics, etc. - by uploading them to the BBS. Be sure to leave a Message to the SysOp giving him the names of the files.

Permission is granted to any Atari Users Group to reprint any selections from this newsletter, provided credit is given to the originator (the author) of the article.

PIRACY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED at any gathering of J-BUG or on the BCS ATARI BBS.

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FROM THE BRIDGE

By Alan M. Glick

Welcome aboard. We have a lot to cover, from the group's reorganization, to the Northeast Atari Computer Fair, to COMDEX, so let's raise anchor, cast-off, hoist sails, and get under way.

You may notice that the newsletter is now being produced on a laserwriter. This is due to the combined efforts of moi and our new J-BUG Newsletter Managing Editor, Bill Leishman. Under Bill's supervision, J-BUG will be a bi-monthly publication, something I was unable to accomplish.

On Tuesday, November 17, I called an Executive Committee Meeting for 7:00 pm at MIT, and for the next four hours the committee helped me set up an initial draft of the Budget for 1989, and hacked out an reorganization for the group. The Budget Meeting got somewhat heated, and I want to publicly apologize to Harry Steele for his points relating to the Bulletin Board - Harry, for the most part you were right. Enough said. Key points on the reorganization.

MEETING FORMATS

There will still be two meeting each months. The General Meeting will still be on the second Tuesday, and the Tech Meeting will hopefully be on the fourth Tuesday each month. I have asked Joni Bubliski, our very resourceful contact at MIT to look into this for me, but as of this writing, I haven't heard. Joni doesn't believe it will be a problem, but MIT hasn't set up room assignments for the January semester. On the third Tuesday we will have our Executive Committee meetings.

The General Meeting will become more structured with flexibility. The general format is as follows:

- 7:00 - 7:30 Set-up; Questions and Answers new members, new users; general beginner's clinic.
- 7:30 - 8:00 Demo new software; demo new P/D software.
- 8:00 - 9:00 Guest Speaker(s)
- 9:00 - ? Break up SIG groups, purchase P/D, etc.

We are set for an exciting array of guest speakers in the year to come. In December J-BUG presents Paul Swanson, the creator of the Nite Lite BBS. Paul will demonstrate two new Interchangeable Interfaces, both his SP and PP Series. Hopefully, he will demonstrate them using a touch screen monitor. January finds Mike Svoboda, the new New England representative from Electronic Arts demoing the latest from EA. Rich Pearson, the District Manager/Marketing from WordPerfect Corp will demo for us WordPerfect 4.1 on the Atari ST. WordPerfect is definately 'power word processing' on the ST.

The most exciting thing to me is the ambitious plans we have for the Tech Meetings. We have decided to plan each meeting around one specific ST topic. Starting in January, the schedule is as follows;

January - DESKTOP PUBLISHING

Meeting Coordinator - Bill Leishman (617) 491-5438
Tutorial PUBLISHING PARTNER by Bill Leishman
Concept Publishing by Patrick Carberry (Pat is president

of Carberry Technology and will demo his soon to be released product, QUICK-COMP)

Reviews and discussion on:

EASY DRAW v.2.0 from Migraph
FLEET STREET EDITOR from Spectrum Holobyte
GRAPHIC ARTIST from Progressive Applications
DESKTOP PUBLISHER from Timeworks
READY SET GO from Manhattan Graphics (Magic Sac)

Gordon Monnier, President of Michtron Inc. called me the other day and offered me a beta copy mid-January of their Desktop package.

On Thanksgiving Day, Geoff Earle of ISD Marketing gave me a call and asked me to join the Beta Team of CALAMUS, their \$350 DTP package that is suppose to blow Pagemaker away. You'll see them both first at this meeting.

February - REVIEW OF BASICS FOR THE ST

Meeting Coordinator - Eric Bryan (617) 527-2408

Eric, who is president of No Solder Required and a student at MIT, has given us Z-TIME, EZ-RAM, BUSINESS CARD MAKER, and BANNER PROGRAM. Eric is also J-BUG's BASIC Sig Coordinator and will lead a comparison of the following, but not inclusive (we don't have FAST BASIC yet) BASIC's for the Atari ST.

Atari BASIC from Atari Corp.
True BASIC from True BASIC Corp.
GFA BASIC from Michtron
LDW BASIC from Logical Design Works
DTACK BASIC from DTACK Grounded
FAST BASIC from Eidersoft

March - WORD PROCESSING

Meeting Coordinator - Alan M. Glick (617) 296-8286

Review and discussion of

WORDPERFECT from WordPerfect Corp.
WORD WRITER from Timeworks
TEXTPRO from Abacus Software
REGENT WORD II from Regent Software
1ST WORD PLUS - Prospero Software
FINAL WORD - Mark of the Unicorn
MICROSOFT WRITE - Atari Corp.
BECKERTEXT ST - Abacus Software
STWRITER 2.3 (or latest version) - P/D

April - DATABASES

Meeting Coordinator - Jerry Feldman (617) 244-3025

Review and discussion of

dbMAN from VersaSoft/Atari Corp.
dbMAN ST from VersaSoft
ZOOMRACKS from Quickview Systems
REGENT BASE from Regent Software
THE INFORMER from Regent Software
DATATRIEVE from Abacus Software
DB MASTER ONE from Stoneware/Atari Corp.
DBASE ONE from Antic's Catalog
AUTOPROGRAM from Brainstorm Software
LOGISTRIX from Progressive Peripherals

May - SPREADSHEETS

Meeting Coordinator - OPEN

VIP GEM from VIP Technologies

VIP TEXT from VIP Technologies
MASTERTPLAN from VIP Technologies
EZ-CALC from Royal Software
POWERPLAN from Abacus Software
A-CALC PRIME from Antic's Catalog

June - GRAPHICS/DRAWING PROGRAMS

Meeting Coordinator - OPEN

Programs - OPEN

In order for these projects to succeed we need the help of all of you. If you feel you can add some insight into one of the above, please contact the appropriate Meeting Coordinator. We are not experts, or even possess all the above, so please, if you have used any of the above, call.

THE NORTHEAST ATARI COMPUTER FAIR

I feel I could write several volumes on this subject. I think I'll take a back door approach by thanking everyone involved and then give my impressions. Therefore, my second decision is to do it in two parts. My official impressions and my report to the J-BUG membership will constitute the body of Part II.

I would like to thank the AtariFest Organizing Committee, because without their combined effort, this event would not have occurred.

* To my Co-chair, Lee H. Pappas, Publisher/Editor of ANALOG PUBLISHING. Lee was instrumental in booking the CENTRUM, arranging hotel accommodations, booth assignments.

* To Jerry Wolosenko, Former President CSS East/Apex Resources. Jerry, in the latter stages, allowed the organizing committee to use his office facilities for our meetings. Jerry organized the mini trade show for the dealers on Friday. Jerry has started a new company, Constellation Software, and I wish him well in this new endeavor.

* To Al Hoppers, Vice-President of Dr.T's Music Software. Al arranged for the appearance of Jeff Baker, who entertained us all during his MIDI concert both afternoons. Al and Jeff also gave the MIDI Seminar.

* To Thom Graziano, President of CompuClub. Thom arranged the Seminars and set up their scheduling and materials.

* To Diane Gaw, Former Managing Editor of Analog Publishing. Diane did all the behind the scenes work - the most critical.

* To Rich Nagle and Bill Hughes of Miller Communications. Miller arranged our Public Relations, in press releases to newspapers, magazines, and radio.

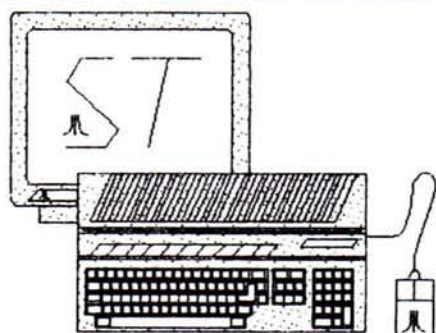
* To Jim Kelley (BCS JBUG PR) and Bonnie Tuerrentine of the Computer Museum for obtaining the appropriate labels for our school mailing.

* To Angie Rothenmaier and Roxie Sawchuk of CSS East/Apex Resources for their work on PR and on our mailings.

* To Jim Fiala and Andy Bell who represented Atari Corp

* To my J-BUG officers, Jerry Feldman (Treasurer), Harry Steele (BBS SysOp), David Sheibley (J-BUG Librarian), John Faber (NEACF User Group Coordinator) and 8-Bit Director, and Gordon Cowie (Budget Committee Chair)

I would like to thank the following vendors and user groups for participating in the Northeast Atari Computer Fair.



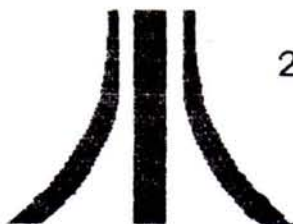
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- A large selection of software is available in both ST and MS-DOS formats. 3 1/2" disk software for the IBM compatible machines is available on request.
- BCS Members (with valid membership card) receive a 10% discount off prices as marked.

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(PC Clones)**

ABACUS

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Westford, MA 01886
(617) 937-8046

Buzz Hamilton
Don Peters
Dave Burns
Geoff Kransdorf
Phil Melanson
Russ Grohe
Dawn Burns
Greg Warden
Ray Wallace
Dan Lyon
Dan Fortin

The Acton-Boxboro Atari Users Society (formerly ABUG), came in force and picked up several new members and sold both 8-bit and ST Public Domain disks.

Alpha Systems

1012 Skyland Drive
Macedonia, OH 44056
(216) 467-5665

George Morrison, Director of Research and Technology
Helen Prozialeck, General Manager

Alpha Systems came with a slew of 8-bit and ST products. Of ST interest was their new version of POLYDISK, the 512K

cartridge that acts like a high speed disk drive, that now can plug into a wall outlet for memory retention, even when the computer is turned off. The one megabyte version (called MEGADISK) contains a battery back-up.

Analog Publishing

565 Main Street
Cherry Valley, MA 01611
(617) 892-9230

Lee H. Pappas, Publisher/Editor
Michael Des Chenes, Publisher/Editor
Diane Gaw, Managing Editor
Charlie Bachand, Chief Programmer
Clayton Walnum, Technical Editor
Robin Levitsky, Circulation

Analog had two booths. One booth selling old and new magazines, posters, and subscriptions to ANALOG COMPUTING and ST LOG magazines. The second, headed by Mike Des Chenes, who doesn't normally go to shows, was selling old Atari 8-bit products. (Special note - There has been a lot of controversy surrounding the health of Analog Publishing, since no magazines have reached our door-steps in several months. Lee Pappas has informed me that this is due to the fact that Analog has brought a new printer on line and that you should receive 3 ST LOGs and 2 ANALOG COMPUTING magazines before Christmas. After this both magazines will be back on a regular schedule.)

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**Jackintosh
BoSTon
Users
Group**

**Calendar
of
Events**

For Users of Atari ST Computers

J-BUG GENERAL MEETING
2nd Tuesday each month

December 8

Paul Swanson, President

Nite Lite System and developer of
the Nite Lite BBS will demonstrate
his newest product for the ST

Programmable Interfaces

SP (serial) & PP (parallel) series

Applied with Touch Screen Monitor

J-BUG TECH MEETING
4th Tuesday each month

There will be NO Tech Meeting during
the month of December.

Season's Greetings

January 12

Mike Svoboda, Marketing Rep.

Electronic Arts, will showcase the
wide variety of ECA software, including
products from ...

Batteries Included

Datasoft

First Byte

Origin Systems

ECA has something for everyone.

January 26

Desktop Publishing

First in our new format series, which
includes reviews, seminars, tutorials, and
open discussion on a single ST topic.

Tutorial Publishing Partner by Bill
Leishman, J-BUG Managing Editor

Concept Publishing by Patrick
Cranberry, developer of **Quick Comp**

Reviews and discussion on
Easy Draw v.2.0

Fleet Street Editor

Graphic Artist

Desktop Publisher

Ready Set Go (Magic Sac)

February 9

Rick Pearson, Regional Manager

WordPerfect Corp. will demonstrate the
premier word processor for the Atari ST.

WordPerfect 4.1

Power Word Processing for the Atari ST

WP easily performs table of contents
generation, footnoting, on-screen
columns, macros, document
compatibility with IBM, and much more

February 23

Review of BASIC for the ST

ERIC BRYAN, President, No Solder
Required and J-BUG BASIC Sig
Coordinator will lead a comparison of
the following but not inclusive Basics for
the Atari ST.

Atari BASIC

True BASIC

GFA BASIC

LDW BASIC

DTACK BASIC

Make the News

HEADLINES

THE PUBLICATION OF DEDICATED EASY-DRAW USERS • VOLUME 1 • ISSUE 1



Pictured here is a sample of what the new Easy-Draw Supercharger can do! The photograph was scanned at 150DPI, loaded into Easy-Draw and printed at 300 DPI on the HP Series II laser printer.

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Continued on page 1

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Technical Draw Art—Symbol libraries for piping, electrical, floor plan design, etc. \$29.95

24-Pin Driver—For use with NEC P, Star NB and Epson LQ printers, incl. Swiss font \$19.95

HP Laserjet Plus Driver: 150 & 300 DPI drivers Plus the Swiss fonts. Works with Series II ... \$39.95



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Federal Way, WA 98003

For more info or to order call:
1 800 223-3729
206-838-4677

Antic Publishing
544 Second Street
San Francisco, CA 94107
(415) 957-0886

Gary Yost, Director of Marketing

Brian Sarrazin, Manager of Dealer Sales

Antic was selling old and new magazines, and subscriptions to ANTIC and START magazines, along with the some old and new releases from the ANTIC CATALOG line. They were also showing impressive demos with SPECTRUM 512. Tom Hudson dropped by with a four meg demo - very impressive indeed. I was unable to watch the whole thing, but someone told me it took eight minutes to complete. By the way Tom, I now have a shirt just like yours.

Astra Systems
2500 S. Fairview, Unit L
Santa Ana, CA 92704
(714) 549-2141

Lew Schering, President

Astra was showing the SYSTEM HD+. This is an industrially made 20 megabyte hard drive with a built-in double-sided Sony 3.5" floppy drive. This is the drive running the BCS Atari Bulletin Board. This author gives this drive the highest praise, both in design and functionality. The answer to my trivia question, 'Who are the only two people to attend every AtariFest,' is Lew and Atari's Sandi Austin. However, Lew tells me there is a third entity - his 20 megabyte hard drive. Lew could be seen putting it on its side, tossing it in the air, and this is during operations. Astra was also showing their 8-bit hard drives, cables, etc. Also, Astra was exhibiting the ST SPRITE FACTORY from FUTURE SOFTWARE SYSTEMS, which is a full-featured professional sprite editing system. Lew took part in the Hardware Hacking Seminar. Lew, please forgive me for misspelling your name.

Atari Corp.
1196 Borregas Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94088
(408) 745-2000

Augie Liquori, U.S. General Manager
Neal Harris, Director Marketing Communications
Sandi Austin, User Group Coordinator
Kim Barney, Show Coordinator
Andy Bell, District Manager
John McCarthy, District Manager

Atari was exhibiting the 4 Megabyte ST, the Laser Printer, and their PC clone. Remember the 4 Mega had its roll-out at The Northeast Atari Computer Fair. That means this was the first show that dealers were allowed to sell the machine. Atari also released the 1200 baud modem and the 80 column card at our fair. I know all the 1200 baud modems sold out. Neal gave an excellent performance during his seminar for Atari. Augie Liguori, as a last minute stand-in for Walt Wilson, who had just left Atari, gave the dealer roll out on Friday.

Atari Explorer
8 Hilltop Road
Mendham, NJ 07945
(201) 543-6007

David Ahl, Publisher
Betsy Staples, Editor

The Explorer, Atari's official magazine, was selling old and new magazines and taking subscriptions. The Explorer does seem to get better and better with every issue.

Avant-Garde Systems
381 Pablo Point Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32225
(904) 221-2904

Ginny & William N. Teal, Partners

What can I say about the developers of PC-DITTO, the IBM emulator that Atari and Paradox tried and not quite yet perfected. For those of you living in a cave, PC-DITTO is probably the number one selling program for the ST. Therefore, if you don't have a copy - go buy one. I couldn't be happier for Ginny and Bill Teal, who are probably one of nicest pair this planet has ever seen, ST or no ST.

Berkeley Microsystems
360 Oakland Avenue, Suite 5
Oakland, CA 94611
(415) 465-6956

Vance Chin

BMS was showing their BMS-100 HARD DISK INTERFACE, which is a high quality peripheral which allows connection between your Atari ST computer and an ST506/ST 412 compatible hard disk drive. The BMS-100 Hard Disk Interface keeps the door open to users who wish to easily upgrade their hard disk systems at a minimum of cost. If you have an interest in this type of system you should ask Berkeley Microsystems for their excellent 4-page handout.

Best Electronics
2021 The Alameda, Suite 290
San Jose, CA 95126
(408) 243-6950

Brad Koda, President

What can anyone say about Brad Koda. Brad has been become a legend in the Atari community. Whether 8-bit or ST, if there is a part or trinket you need, if it still exists, Best Electronics is the place to look. Brad is also one of the most knowledgeable people on Atari.

BCS A-BUG
One Center Plaza
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 367-8080

The Boston Computer Society Atari Boston Users Group, our parent group, was selling their excellent 8-bit Public Domain Library Disks. Harry Steele, the BCS Atari BBS SysOp and 8-Bit Librarian headed the volunteers of this booth.

BCS J-BUG
One Center Plaza
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 367-8080

J-BUG was selling Public Domain Disks, J-BUG Newsletters, and BCS T-Shirts.

The Bit Bucket
1294 Washington Street
West Newton, MA 02164
(617) 964-3080

Bill Blocher Ph.D., President

Jeanne-Marie Peterson, Manager

Bill Cavanaugh, Sales

Laird Topkin, Sales

The Bit Bucket, one of two authorized Atari Mega Dealer at the AtariFest, was selling products at a brisk pace.

CompuClub
186 Oaks Rd.
Framingham, MA 01770
(617) 879-5232

Thom Graziano, President

Joe Aiello, Sales

Our second authorized Atari Mega Dealer at the Atarifest never had a chance to come up for air. CompuClub was also passing out free ST WORLD magazines. Rich Tsukiji of ST WORLD was at the show, so hopefully we will be written up.

Computer Bug
The Hampshire Mall
Hadley, MA 01035
(413) 584-7722

Michael Cohan, Co-Owner

Rick Flashman, Co-Owner

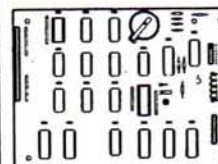
Yes, there is Atari support in Western Mass., and Computer Bug, an official authorized Atari Mega dealer, in the heart of Western Mass college community was a fine representative.

Computer Success
P.O. Box 3031
Wayland Square
Providence, RI 02906
(401) 751-0038

Dave Shutter, Manager

Computer Success was having a good time letting people know Atari was alive and well, and in Rhode Island. CS was also selling MiTac's 2400 baud modem.

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- FileSystem, RealInOut, LongInOut, InOut, Strings, Storage, Terminal
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- Directory search paths
- Supports real numbers and transcendental functions ie. sin, cos, tan, arctan, exp, ln, log, power, sqrt
- 3d graphics and multi-tasking demos
- CODE statement for assembly code
- 370-page manual
- Installs on Hard disk and RAM disk
- No royalties or copy protection
- Phone and network customer support provided

Pascal and Modula-2 source code are nearly identical. Modula-2 should be thought of as an enhanced superset of Pascal. Professor Niklaus Wirth (the creator of Pascal) designed Modula-2 to replace Pascal.

Added features of Modula-2 not found in Pascal

- CASE has an ELSE and may contain subranges
- Programs may be broken up into Modules for separate compilation
- Machine level interface
 - Bit-wise operators
 - Direct port and Memory access
 - Absolute addressing
 - Interrupt structure
- Dynamic strings that may be any size
- Multi-tasking is supported
- Procedure variables
- Module version control
- Programmer definable scope of objects
- Open array parameters (VAR r: ARRAY OF REALS;)
- Elegant type transfer functions

Ramdisk Benchmarks (secs)	Compile	Link	Execute	Optimized Size
Sieve of Eratosthenes:	6.2	4.3	3.5	2600 bytes
Float	6.4	4.8	8.3	4844 bytes
Calc	5.5	4.2	3.3	2878 bytes
Null program	5.1	3.2	—	2370 bytes

```

MODULE Sieve;
CONST
  Size = 8190;
TYPE
  FlagRange = [0..Size];
VAR
  FlagSet = SET OF FlagRange;
  i: FlagRange;
  Prime, k, Count, Iter: CARDINAL;
BEGIN
  FOR Iter := 1 TO 10 DO
    Count := 0;
    Flags := FlagSet(); (* empty set *)
    FOR i := 0 TO Size DO
      IF (i IN Flags) THEN
        Prime := (i * 2) - 3; k := i - Prime;
        WHILE k <= Size DO
          INCL (Flags, k);
          k := k + Prime;
        END;
        Count := Count + 1;
      END;
    END;
  END;
END Sieve;

```

```

MODULE Float;
FROM MathLib0 IMPORT sin, ln, exp,
  sqrt, arctan;
VAR x, y: REAL; i: CARDINAL;
BEGIN (*ST-SA-SS-*)
  x := 1.0;
  FOR i := 1 TO 1000 DO
    y := sin(x); y := ln(x); y := exp(x);
    y := sqrt(x); y := arctan(x);
    x := x * 0.01;
  END;
END Float;

```

```

MODULE calc;
VAR a, b, c: REAL; n: i: CARDINAL;
BEGIN (*ST-SA-SS-*)
  n := 5000;
  a := 2.71828; b := 3.14159; c := 1.0;
  FOR i := 1 TO n DO
    c := c * a; c := c * b; c := c * c;
  END;
END calc;

```

Product History

The TDI Modula-2 compiler has been running on the Pinnacle supermicro (Aug. '84), Amiga (Jan. '86) and will soon appear on the Macintosh and UNIX in the 4th Qtr. '86.

Regular Version \$79.95 Developer's Version \$149.95 Commercial Version \$299.95
The regular version contains all the features listed above. The developer's version supplies an extra diskette containing a symbol file decoder - link and load file disassemblers - a source file cross referencer - symbolic debugger - high level Windows library Module - Ramdisk and Print Spooler source files - Resource Compiler. The commercial version contains all of the Atari module source files.

Other Modula-2 Products

Kermit - Contains full source plus \$15 connect time to Compuserve. \$29.95
Examples - Many Modula-2 example programs to show advanced programming techniques. \$24.95
GRID - Sophisticated multi-key file access method with over 30 procedures to access variable length records. \$49.95



SOFTWARE, INC.

10410 Markison Road ■ Dallas, Texas 75238 ■ (214) 340-4942
Telex: 888442 Compuserve Number: 75026,1331

DASH

c/o Jim Drapeau
11 Calvin Street
Ayer, MA 01432
(617) 772-9276
(BBS) 772-7322

Jim Drapeau, President (8-Bit)

George Hinkle, Developer

DASH, the Devens Atari Specific Hackers users group from Fort Devens were demonstrating their remote-control car for the Atari 800xl. They also demonstrated mouse-driven programs for the 8-bit.

Data Pacific Inc.

609 East Speer Blvd.
Denver, CO 80203-4240
(303) 733-8158

Joel Rosenblum, President

Dan Moore, Programmer

First there was MAGIC SAC PLUS which turned your Atari into a Mac. Then there was the MAGIC PRINTER DRIVER which turned your Atari printer into an Apple ImageWriter printer. Well, Data Pacific has now introduced the TRANSLATOR ONE which turns your Atari disk drive into Macintosh disk drive. The TRANSLATOR ONE allows Atari ST disk drives to read and write Apple Macintosh diskettes, and to move data between Apple Macintosh, Atari ST, MAGIC SAC and IBM PC diskette formats. When used with the MAGIC SAC, the TRANSLATOR allows Macintosh software to be used with the Atari "right off the shelf."

Delphi

Three Blackstone Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617) 491-3393
(800) 544-4005

Dan Bruns, CEO

Rusty Williams, Marketing Director

Delphi was passing out literature about their complete online business and personal Bulletin Board Service. Delphi is home to the Atari User's Group managed by Analog Magazine.

Digital Vision Inc.

66 Eastern Avenue
Dedham, MA 02026
(617) 329-5400

David Pratt, President

John Pratt, Vice-President

Vivian Pratt, Vice-President

Digital Vision was showing both their Mono and Color versions of COMPUTEREYES, this author's favorite digitizer out for the Atari ST or Atari 8-bit computer. Enhancements with the use of DigiSpec from Trio Engineering, the developers of SPECTRUM were incredible. Many people dropped by to get digitized.

Dr. T's Music Software

220 Boylston Street, Suite 306
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167
(617) 244-6954

Al Hospers, Vice President

Jeff Baker, Guest Musician/Performer

Ann O'Donnell, Operations Manager

Jeff Pucci

Oz Barron

Dr. T's was demoing their fine line-up of Midi software, including their Keyboard Control Sequencer, Copyist, CZ Patch Librarian. A very special hello to Ann - 'Hi Ann'. A very, very, special thanks to Jeff Baker, who along with Al Hospers, entertained in concert each afternoon in the lounge area.

Eidersoft USA Inc.
P.O. Box 88
Burgettstown, PA 15021
(412) 947-3739

Ken Browning, President
Ellen Slak, Manager USA
Rebecca Slak, Officer Manager
Roy Steele, Tech Support

When I called Eidersoft they were planning to attend the Amiga Fest taking place in New York the same weekend as our show. They pulled out of Amiga and took two booths at our AtariFest. Here is a company with a true sense of class. EiderSoft was showing their 4000 color paint program.

Electronic Arts
1820 Gateway Dr.
San Mateo, CA 94404
(415) 571-7171

Mike Svoboda, Regional Representative
ECA shared a booth with Software Connection. Among the new titles exhibited was MARBLE MADNESS for the Atari ST.

Foresight Resources Corp.
932 Massachusetts
Lawrence, KS 66044
(913) 841-1121

August Grasis III, Vice President
Peter T. Pierce, Manager U.S. Sales
Foresight was showing their excellent ST version of DRAFIX 1, a Professional CAD Workstation, with their Dynamic Screen Menuing System, which includes comprehensive entity drawing and editing facilities, advanced snap, grid, and object snap drawing aids, multiple fonts, crosshatching, a complete automatic dimensioning system, symbol library management and much more. They were also showing it on a 4 Mega ST.

Hartech USA Ltd.
8341 East Evans Road, Suite 106
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
(602) 483-1991

Harry J. Wheaton, Vice-President
Margo Wheaton (the Princess)
Hartech was showing their line-up of Atari Calculators from solar to desktop. The only item I picked up at the AtariFest was my rubber-key solar calculator, and I never leave home without it.

Hybrid Arts, Inc.
11920 West Olympic Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90064
(213) 826-3777
Hybrid Arts was showing their MIDI software.

JNL Technologies
3460 Harold St.
Oceanside, NY 11572
(516) 678-1367

Leslie Rudner, President
Jeremy Berger, Vice-President
JNL was showing their composite monitor converter.

ICD, Inc.
1220 Rock Street
Rockford, IL 61101-1437
(815) 968-2228

Thomas D. Harker, President
Terry A. Giardini, Account Executive
Flash-back - ST 1st quarter 699.95 50meg automatic parking heads 1995. ICD also showed an array of hard disks (a footprint one for a mega) and an ST host Adapter, which you can daisy chain several hard drives.

Kurlan Music
17 East Mountain Street
Worcester, MA 01606
(617) 853-6417
Paul Gervais, President
Bill Doyle

Kurlan, the only Atari dealer in Worcester, was displaying their synthesizers and Atari MIDI products. Bill, a BCS member, writes a MIDI column for ST Applications.

LaSalle Music
1116 Boylston St.
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 536-2030
(203) 236-5401

Jeffrey Ehrlich, President
LaSalle shared a booth with Hybrid Arts and showed their array of synthesizers.

LC Technologies
P.O. Box 4960
Beaverton, OR 97076-4960
(800) 426-2200
(503) 627-6110

Peggy Scott, Sales Specialist
LC demonstrated their STEREOTEK 3D glasses, with liquid crystal shutter (LCS) which is based on the fast switching pi-cell, a propriety technology developed and patented by Tektronix, Inc.

Megamax, Inc.
P.O. Box 31294
Dallas, TX 75231
(214) 987-4931

Jeff Morgan, Marketing Director
R. Peter Taliancich Jr., Tech Support
Megamax was showing their pre-release version of LASER C (should be out by the time you read this - mid December). LASER C is a complete C Language Development System, which will compile and link the sieve benchmark in only 5 seconds. Jeff was telling me how pleased he was to see so many programmers attending the AtariFest.

Michtron
576 S. Telegraph
Pontiac, MI 48053
(313) 334-5700

Gordon Monnier, President
Laine Reynolds, Sales
Bryan Kearns, Sales

It would take a newsletter in itself to list all the programs Michtron has for the Atari ST. Whether it be in telecommunications with MICHTRON BBS (which runs the BCS ATARI BBS - 617 396-4607), to arcade with GOLDRUNNER, to languages with GFA BASIC. They were also showing their new GRIFFIN products, which sell at a more reasonable price due to no packaging and no manual. Manual if necessary is on the disk. Look for their new desktop publishing package in the first quarter '88'

Midi Maze

Hybrid Arts
There was a brisk pace at the the MIDI MAZE area. We had eight computers hooked up and running.
Migrath, Inc.
333rd Street, Suite 201
Federal Way, WA 98003
(206) 838-4677
Kevin Mitchell, President
Liz Mitchell, Vice-President

If I said in once I use Migrath's FAST, LABELMASTER ELITE, and EASY DRAW every day. Migrath was also showing their new M/CADD packages, Migrath's new Professional Engineering Design System. M/CADD consists of two packages: a 2D Drafting Composer and a 3D Wireframe Modeller. They also released SUPERCHARGER at the AtariFest, which will allow graphic or scanned images to be placed in Easy Draw. Migrath also has several drivers for 24 pin and Laser printers, along with several clip art disks.

Nite Lite Systems
12 Shedd Road
Billerica, MA 01821
(617) 663-4463

Paul Swanson, President

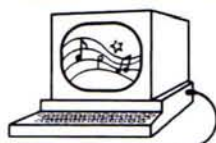
Paul was demoing his Interchangeable Interfaces (both his Serial Series - SP, and his Parallel Series - PP). Paul utilized a Touch Sreen Monitor. Paul was also demoing his LAN system.

Omnitrend
8 Huckleberry Lane
West Simsbury, CT 06092
(203) 658-6917

Thomas R. Carbone, President

William G.M. Leslie III, V.P.

Omnitrend released their new role-playing graphics, game - BREACH. BREACH has several scenarios.



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KCS LEVEL II

TRACK-MODE RECORD/PLAY

TRACK	NAME	STATUS	PUN	TRACK	NAME	STATUS	PUN	TRACK	NAME	STATUS	PUN
1	BassDrum	PLAY	11	2	RiddleBass	PLAY	11	3	P. 02 Bass	PLAY	11
2	SnareDrum	PLAY	11	4	E. Mirage 1	PLAY	11	5	C. 00ee	PLAY	11
3	Hiker	PLAY	11	5	F. Mirage 2	ROUTE	11	6	E. Citar	PLAY	11
4	Nighton	ROUTE	11	6	H. Mirage 3	PLAY	11	7	S. 02gipm	PLAY	11
5	Hed Tun	PLAY	11	7	H. Mirage 4	ROUTE	11	8		RECORD	11
6	Lun Tun	PLAY	11	8	T. 007 Stab	PLAY	11	9			11
7	Cymbals	PLAY	11	9	J. 007 Strg	PLAY	11	10			11
8	Cowbell	PLAY	11	10	K. 007 Brus	ROUTE	11	11			11
9	Tompos	PLAY	11	11	L. 0000Strg	PLAY	11	12			11
10	Timbales	ROUTE	11	12	L. 0000Bum	PLAY	11	13			11
11	C. Cables	PLAY	11	13	S. 0000ing	ROUTE	11	14			11
12	O. Tioles	PLAY	11	14	K. 003 Voice	PLAY	11	15			11

The reviews are in . . .

"A Best Buy' I'm impressed"

David H. Ahl, Atari Explorer, Nov-Dec 1987

"If you've got an Atari, you probably need this program."

Jerry Pournell, Byte Magazine, October 1987

"pc-ditto is a winner."

Charlie Young, ST World, July 1987

"This is the product we have been looking for."

Donna Wesolowski, ST Informer, August 1987

"This truly incredible software emulator really works."

Mike Gibbons, Current Notes, September 1987

NOW! RUN THESE IBM PROGRAMS ON YOUR ATARI ST.

Lotus 1-2-3
Enable
Sidekick
Crosstalk IV
EasyCAD
GW Basic

Flight Simulator
Ability
Superkey
Carbon Copy
DAC Easy Accounting
Managing Your Money

Framework
DESQview
Norton Utilities
Chart-Master
BPI Accounting
Silvia Porter's

Symphony
Q&A
dBase II,III,III+
Print Shop
Turbo Pascal
pfs:Professional
File

And Hundreds More!

pc-ditto is a software-only utility which expands the power of your Atari ST to imitate an IBM PC XT. No extra hardware is required (an optional 5.25-inch drive may be required for 5.25-inch disks). All your IBM disks will work "out-of-the-box".

pc-ditto features include:

- o both the 520ST and the 1040ST supported
- o up to 703K usable memory (1040ST)
- o not copy-protected -- installable on hard disk
- o imitates IBM monochrome and IBM color graphics adapters
- o access to hard disk, if hard disk used
- o optionally boots DOS from hard disk
- o parallel and serial ports fully supported
- o supports 3.5-inch 720K format and 360K single-sided formats
- o supports optional 5.25-inch 40-track drives

System requirements:

- o IBM PC-DOS or Compaq MS-DOS version 3.2 or above recommended
- o optional 5.25-inch drive is required to use 5.25-inch disks
- o 3.5-inch 720K DOS disks require a double-sided drive (Atari SF314 or equivalent)

\$89.95

pc-ditto
by

Avant-Garde Systems
381 Pablo Point Drive
Jacksonville, Florida 32225
(904) 221-2904

PAGE
 P.O. Box 13435
 Pittsburgh, PA 15243
 BBS (412) 963-1355
 John Babson (SysOp)

John Babson, who is a great guy and has the most bizarre suit this author has ever seen, was selling the PACE Public Domain Library, including his exceptional disk labeler program. Dave Sheibley, our Disk Librarian now uses this program to label our library disks (J-BUG #79). We haven't reviewed any P/D software before, but I may ask Dave to review this one as our first.

Practical Solutions
 1930 East Grant Road
 Tucson, AZ 85719
 (602) 884-9612

Mark & Cathy Sloatman
 Practical Solutions have given us Monitor Master, a must for any ST owner with both RGB and Monochrome monitors. Monitor Master allows you to switch monitor by the push of a button. PS also demoed VideoKey, an RGB to composite converter, compatible with Monitor Master, and designed specifically for an ST without RF modulations. Also Mouse Master, which selects between mouse and joystick and brings the ports to where they're accessible.

Prospero Software Inc.
 100 Commercial St., Suite 306
 Portland, ME 04101
 (207) 874-0382
 Dr. D.C.G. Terpenning, Executive V.P.
 Andrew Lucas, V.P. Marketing
 Martin T. McLellan, Tech. Support

Prospero was showing their Fortran and Pascal packages. They are also marketing FIRST WORD PLUS. One feature is the ability to add graphics to your text screen.

Publication Booth
 BCS J-BUG
 One Center Plaza
 Boston, MA 02108
 J-BUG Volunteers

Publication booth was busy selling ST APPLICATIONS and ST INFORMERS which were generously donated by them.

Quantum Microsystems Inc.
 P.O. Box 179
 Liverpool, NY 13088
 (315) 451-7747

John DeMar, President
 QMI was showing their line-up of software including DESKART, desk accessory & clock cartridge, ST-Talk, Professional 2.0, BB/ST, and DO-IT. QMI also showed a finished version of ProTablet ST, a professional graphics tablet, which replaces the mouse for virtually all programs.

Regent Software
 7131 Owensmouth, Suite 45A
 Canoga Park, CA 91303
 (818) 882-2800

Frank Cohen, President
 Regent was showing their new product the INFORMER, which is a multi-table database with presentation graphics format. Regent offers a trial pak for \$20 which may go toward the purchase of the full-blown program. A neat, new idea. Regent also had on hand REGENT-BASE and REGENT WORD II.

RF Microtech
 321 Boston Rd. Rt. 3A
 N. Billerica, MA 01862
 (617) 667-8900

Bob Fitzpatrick, President
 RF Microtech and Bob Fitzpatrick have been one of finest independant Atari Service centers (repairs and upgrades - 'service that will make you smile') and supports both BCS Atari Users Groups and our Bulletin Board. By the time you read this RF MicroTech will have become a full-service Atari Dealership. Best of luck to Bob and RF MicroTech. Bob was handing out a large-ring loose-leaf notebook.

RIACE
 192 Webster Avenue
 Providence, RI 02909
 BBS (401) 521-4234
 Steve Dunphy, President
 Bob Burns
 Pete Stetson
 the Gaitondes
 Phil Hawkins
 Kevin Senegal



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STARSOFT DEVELOPMENT LABORATORIES

the Smiths
the Mathews
Alan Roseman
Mickey Silver
Dan Pierce

The Rhode Island Atari Computer Enthusiasts as you can tell came in force, and sold a slew of Public Domain disks. Thanks to the more than adequate help, Steve Dunphy, RIACE president and newsletter editor, was able to do an exceptional job in helping to run the Midi Maze. Special thanks to Marshall Vale and his mother for the neat RIACE banner. Sharing the booth was Tom Arena and his midi equipment. Music and great P/D disks made this one of the most active user group booths.

Seymor Radix
P.O. Box 166055
Irving, TX 75016
(214) 255-7490

Tad A. Painter, President/Developer
Jay Tynes, Vice-President
Seymor Radix demonstrated their IMG Scan image scanner.

SoftLogik Corp.
4129 Old Baumgartner
St. Louis, MO 63129
(314) 894-8608

Shawn Fogle, President
Deron Kazmaier, Systems Analyst
SoftLogik, the producers of PUBLISHING PARTNER, the 'premier desktop publishing package for the Atari ST' was showing their product along with several clip art and font packages.

Software Connection
101 West Natick Rd.
Warwick, RI 02886
(401) 738-3430

Mike Gendron, President
Our second Atari dealer from Rhode Island was also doing a brisk business. Electronic Arts shared a booth with them.

Software Haus
49 Beale Street
Quincy, MA 02170
(617) 770-3899
Rev. Jim Kimmell, President
Peter Johnson
Eric (who ever you may be)
Todd Kimmell
Corrinne Fichner

Software Haus was busy both days, selling a slew of new releases, that only they seem to acquired.
Sophos Chess
Sophos Chess was demonstrating a pre-release chess program

ST Applications
PO Box 980
Forestville, CA 95436
(707) 887-7879

ST Applications sent several boxes of the first ST oriented magazine for J-BUG to sell. Monthly features include; devoted news column, monthly MIDI column, gaming column, desktop publishing column (coming soon), opinion column (interviews, and interesting facts), C, Fortran, Pascal, BASIC,

Assembly (soon), Modula 2, Forth, and many articles on programming monthly, feature articles and reviews, 88 fact filled pages.

ST Informer
909 NW Starlite Place
Grants Pass, OR 97526
(503) 476-0071

J-BUG Publication Table
ST Informer sent several boxes of their magazine for J-BUG to sell.

ST Atari RoadRunners
48 Winding Road
Madison, CT 06443
(203) 421-3864

Bob Heuffman, President
Madelon Wilson, Editor
ST Atari RoadRunners didn't have a booth, but as it turned out, I don't know how I could have pulled this event off, without the tireless volunteer effort of Bob Heuffman and Madelon Wilson. A very special thank you from yours truly.

ST X-Press
P.O. Box 2383
La Habra, CA 90632
(213) 691-8000

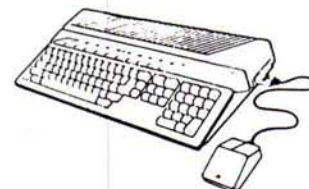
Rich Decowski, Publisher
ST X-Press was selling old issues, and taking subscriptions to their magazine. Madelon Wilson, editor of S.T.A.R.R., the ST Atari Road Runners Newsletter from Connecticut will be reporting on the AtariFest for ST X-Press. Madelon, who writes a column on ZOOMRACKS for the ST X-Press, cornered me in my make-shift office (a storage room across the hall from the exhibit area) dragged me to the dusty floor, and got me comfortable. All this for an interview....??? To find out what actually happened in that secluded room, you must purchase a copy of ST X-Press. Now, if that's not worth the price of a subscription, I don't know what is. I certainly want to know what occurred, and I was there. (Madelon-Got-ya!)

Supra Corp.
1133 Commercial Way
Albany, OR 97321
(503) 967-9075
Willie Brown
D'Lynn Barry

Supra was showing their line-up of ST Hard Drives, which they produce from 10 MB to 250 MB. They also had their FD-10, a 10 MB removable floppy drive, which is useful for hard disk back-ups. They sold a slew of 2400 baud modems. Unfortunately, I know whether any of them worked - but they will.

Syntronics
466 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215
(617) 266-5039

John Koumoutseas, President
Syntronics is a full-featured Music/MIDI, full-service Atari dealer located in Kenmore Square.



Terrific Peripherals
17 St. Mary's Court
Brookline, MA 02146
(617) 232-2317

Michael Jacks, Manager
Eric Bryan, Developer
Jerry Polucci, Sales

Terrific Peripherals with specials on both their Z-Time internal chip clock (I have the the very first production unit, and it's still going strong for over a year), and EZ-RAM, their one Meg, non-solder, upgrade board sold out both days. Michael Jacks informs me that their two megabyte board will be ready for release December 15.

Trio Engineering
Swampscott, MA

The developers of SPECTRUM were sharing a booth with Digital Vision, displaying DIGISPEC, an graphic enhancer which is extraordinary. Computereyes and Digispec - an unbeatable combination.

True BASIC inc.
39 South Main Street
Hanover, NH 03755
(800)-TRBASIC
(603) 643-3882

Stewart Chapin, V.P. Marketing
Karen A. Sessler, Customer Support

True BASIC presented it's ST version, which is a structured programming language, which will run on several different environments, such as MacIntosh and IBM. This portability should significantly increase software written in it. They also produce a number of libraries, including 3D Graphics, Sorting and Searching, the Advanced String Library, and the Mathematician's Toolkit. For anyone who purchased the program, True BASIC gave an awarding winning Aerobie flying disk designed using True BASIC.

Virtusonics Corp.
123 Duke Ellington
New York, NY 10025
(212) 316-6945

Richard Lewis
Joseph Lyons

Virtusonics displayed Virtuoso, a combination animation, music, graphics, telecommunications, and text program for the Atari 8-bit computer. Virtusonics refers to it as a Desktop Performance Studio.

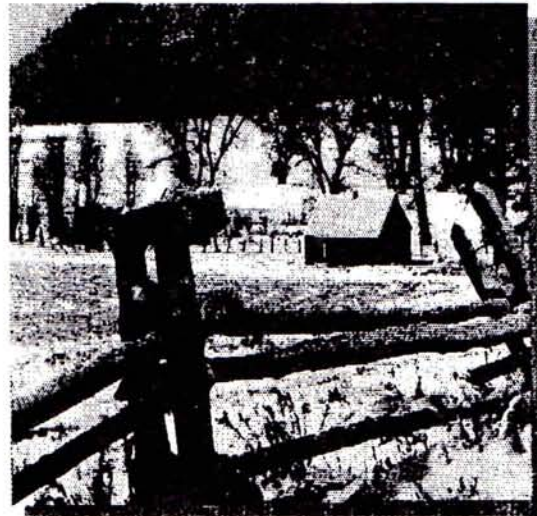
WordPerfect Corp.
288 West Center Street
Orem, UT 84057
(801) 225-5000

Todd Ashman, Manager, Atari Division
Jeff Wilson, Developer

Rick Pearson, Manager, Regional Marketing

WordPerfect Corp. honored The Northeast Atari Computer Fair by releasing their Atari ST version of WordPerfect 4.1. WordPerfect is destined to be the 'premier word processor' for the Atari ST line of computers.

Supercharge



Your Easy-Draw!

The answer to your Desktop Publishing needs is here: the Easy-Draw[®] Supercharger[™]! The Supercharger lets you load scanned images PLUS all or part of your favorite Neochrome and Degas pictures into Easy-Draw. Instantly, you'll have access to hundreds of images that may be used for newsletters, flyers, ads, company memos and more!

With the Supercharger, you won't be limited to screen resolution images. Using resolution independent image files, the Supercharger allows you to preview scanned images on color or monochrome screens and then print out at a much higher resolution.

For instance, a 300 dot per inch scanned photograph can be printed at the same resolution on laser printers and other high-res devices.

The Supercharger and Easy-Draw offer the most versatile solution for combining text with drawn, painted, and scanned images in whatever manner you choose!

Additional Easy-Draw Companion Products:

Font Pack #1—Contains 2 fonts: Rocky and HiTech
(9 pin only)\$39.95

Personal Draw Art—Has over 150 predrawn images
incl. borders, vehicles, symbols\$29.95

Technical Draw Art—Symbol libraries for piping,
electrical, floor plan design etc\$29.95

24-Pin Driver—For use with NEC P. Star NB and
Epson LQ printers, incl. Swiss front\$19.95

Call for info on HP Laserjet Plus and Postscript Drivers



Easy-Draw is a registered trademark of Migraph, Inc. Supercharger and Migraph are trademarks of Migraph, Inc. Degas is a trademark of Batteries Included and Neochrome is a trademark of Atari Corp.

Migraph Inc.
720 S. 333rd St., (201)
Federal Way, WA 98003

For more info or to order call:
1 800 223-3729
206-838-4677

Seminars

I want to thank all those who participated in our seminars. We had two seminar rooms set up with talks lasting an hour and twenty minutes.

Schedule of Events

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1987

- 10:30 a.m. Room 1 **HARDWARE HACKING**
 Lew Shwering from Astra
 Thomas Harker from ICD
 Willie Brown from Supra
- 11:30 a.m. Room 2 **WORD PROCESSING FOR THE POWER USER**
 Jeff Wilson from WordPerfect Corp.
 Frank Cohen from Regent Software
- 12:30 p.m. Lounge **MIDI CONCERT**
 Jeff Baker - Special Guest Performer
 Al Hospers from Dr. T's Music Software
- 1:30 p.m. Room 2 **TRUE BASIC**
 Adam Weber from True BASIC inc.
 Stewart Chapin from True BASIC inc.
- 2:30 p.m. Room 1 **DESKTOP PUBLISHING**
 Shawn Fogel from SoftLogik Corp.
 Kevin Mitchell from Migraph Inc.
- 3:30 p.m. Room 2 **MIDI SEMINAR**
 Jeff Baker on how his album was made
 Al Hospers from Dr. T's Music Software
- 4:30 p.m. Room 1 **ATARI CORP. STAFF**
 Neil Harris, Director, Marketing
 Communications, Atari Corp.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1987

- 12:30 p.m. Room 1 **ATARI CORP. STAFF**
 Neil Harris, Director, Marketing
 Communications, Atari Corp.
- 1:30 p.m. Room 2 **ALL-STAR SOFTWARE HACKING**
 Bill Teal from Avant-Garde (PC-DITTO)
 Joel Rosenblum from Data Pacific
 (MAGIC SAC)
- 2:30 p.m. Lounge **MIDI CONCERT**
 Jeff Baker - Super Guest Performer
 Al Hospers - Dr. T's Music Software
- Room 1 **DESKTOP PUBLISHING**
 Kevin Mitchell from Migraph Inc.
 Shawn Fogel from SoftLogik
- 3:30 p.m. Room 2 **MIDI SEMINAR**
 Jeff Baker on how is album was made
 Al Hospers from Dr. T's Music Software
- 4:30 p.m. Room 1 **HARDWARE HACKING**
 Lew Sherwing from Astra
 Thomas Parker from ICD
 Willie Brown from Supra

I want to thank all the volunteers who moderated these seminars, Bob Hueffman and Madelon Wilson from the ST Road Runners in Connecticut, Kevin Champagne from the Computer Cache in Quincy, and John Faber, our Atari 8-bit Director and NEACF Volunteer Coordinatorm, and anyone else I left out.

Door and Raffle Prize Vendors

I would like to thank the following companies for contributing products for Door and Raffle prizes. Addresses given only for those vendors not attending the AtariFest.

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There was also a Mouse Pad donated but I don't know from who.

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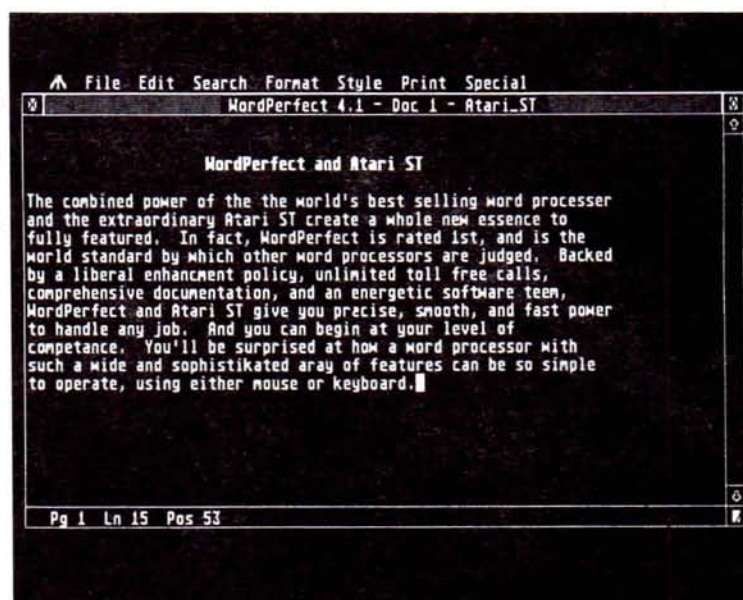
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How many times have you asked yourself if there isn't a better word. A traditional thesaurus is a great help in finding just the right word, or leading you into creating a better phrase, but it's time consuming and tedious. That's why many of us compromise and take what's already there.

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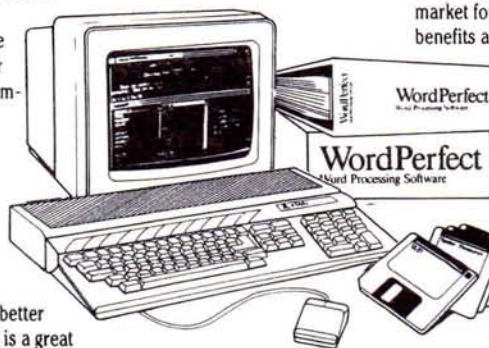
For more information, call us during normal business hours at 1-801-225-5000 or write WordPerfect Corporation, 228 West Center Street, Orem, Utah 84057

The Atari ST version of WordPerfect operates on the Atari 520 ST, 1040 ST and forthcoming Mega ST's. One drive required. (Two drives or hard disk recommended.)

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WordPerfect

C O R P O R A T I O N

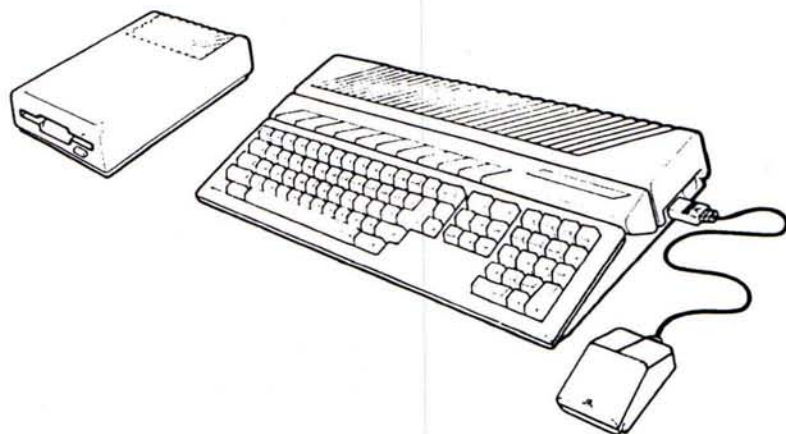


Door Prize Winners

I would like to congratulate the following door prize winners.

Saturday - October 10th Winners

<u>Time</u>	<u>Prize</u>	<u>Winner</u>
11:00 am	Magic Sac	Chris Moore - Wakefield, RI
11:00 am	Paint Pro	Roy Lomicka - Chelmsford, MA
11:30 am	Fleet St. Publisher.	Chandler W. Booth - Terryvale, CT
11:30 am	DeskCart	Dennis DiGiovann - Wakefield, MA
12:00 pm	Z-Time	Richard B. O'Malley - Norwood, MA
12:00 pm		David E. Dixon - Hamden, CT
12:30 pm	Mouse Trap	Wade Van Coppenolle - Haverhill, MA
12:30 pm	PC Ditto	Ernie Noury - Central Falls, RI
1:00 pm	Pirates of the Barbary Coast	Tom Roveto - Haverhill, MA
1:00 pm	Calculator cc1900	Mitchell Myers - Boston, MA
1:30 pm	BB/ST	Sophie Cokinos - Holbrook, MA
1:30 pm	Paint ST	Daniel Bubly - Sharon, MA
2:00 pm	Breach	John B. Hefferman - Pittsfield, MA
2:00 pm		Tony Ricci - Nashua, NH
2:30 pm	Mouse Trap	Susan L. Murray - Melrose, MA
2:30 pm	Athena II	Joe Rice - Medford, MA
3:00 pm	Mouse Trap	Roland Fitzray - N. Granby, CT
3:00 pm	Mouse Trap	Mathew Sheridan - Medford, MA
3:30 pm	Pirates of the Barbary Coast	Dorothy Heath - Brockton, MA
3:30 pm	MikeyTraxx	Kelly Ann McQuiston - Gardner, MA
4:00 pm	Athena II	Stephen List - Dover, NH
4:00 pm	Athena II	Mary Mills - Tamworth, NH
4:30 pm	Mu-Script	Debra Lilli - Cranston, RI
4:30 pm	Wanderer	Josh Appah - Newton - MA
5:00 pm	Zoomracks (HSK)	Ryan Reetz - Port Chester, NY
5:00 pm	Athena II	Sandy Garnett - Epping, NH
5:30 pm		Bernice Futterman - Sylvan Beach, NY
5:30 pm	Pirates of the Barbary Coast	Charles E. Nelson - Moosup, CT



Sunday - October 11th

12:30 pm	Aliants	Raymond Bilodeau - Whitinsville, MA
12:30 pm	PC Ditto	William J. Powers, Jr. - Shrewsbury, MA
1:00 pm	Gift Cert.	Gail Weintraub - Fairfield, CT.
1:00 pm	Printer Interface	Richard Jope - Marshfield, MA
1:00 pm	Vegas Gambler	Fred Belanger - Paxton, MA
1:30 pm	Gift Cert.	Harold Weisenbloom - Shoreham, NY
1:30 pm	Gato	James E. Harris - Pittsfield, MA
2:00 pm	ST Karate	Layne Herschel - Wakefield, MA
2:00 pm	Trivia Challenge	William A. Flynn - Boston, MA
2:30 pm	Pirates of the Barbary Coast	Mr. & Mrs. Paul G. Tessier - Manchester, NH
2:30 pm	Mouse Pad	Sal Bramante - Reading, MA
3:00 pm	Aliants	Paul St. Amand - E. Hartford, CT
3:00 pm	Vegas Gambler	Bob Corbin - Sutton, MA
3:30 pm	Pirates of the Barbary Coast	Robert Kowalewski - Bridgewater, MA
3:30 pm	GFA Basic	Carlos Fuentes - Worcester, MA
4:00 pm	Cardiac Arrest	Doris R. Dubois - Hadley, MA
4:00 pm		Joseph Bofte - Douglas, MA
4:30 pm	Leader Board	Patricia L. Probst - Acton, MA
4:30 pm		Rick Doherty - Seafood, NY
5:00 pm	Aliants	Paul Fessenden - Lynn, MA
5:00 pm	Zoomracks (BSK)	Stephen Petren - Holliston, MA

Grand Prize -

520ST Monochrome Computer
5:30 pm Douglas Bergengren - Concord, MA

I would like to congratulate our MIDI MAZE contest winner.

The Midi Maze Contest - CZ 101
Leonard Lincoln - Foxboro, MA

I would like to congratulate our BCS J-BUG Raffle Winners.

Third Prize -

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Publishing Partner & Easy Draw
Robert Heuffman - Madison, CT

Second Prize -

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Tom Barbereau - Providence, RI

First Prize -

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Keyboard Control Sequencer
The Copyist
Bach Songbook
Paul Gosselin - Methuen, MA

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CC91R	Solar Powered Credit Card Calculator	Ea		5.95	
CC92	Solar Powered Credit Card Calculator	Ea		5.95	
CC90B	Solar Powered Credit Card Calculator	Ea		5.95	
CC91B	Solar Powered Credit Card Calculator	Ea		5.95	
CC91G	Solar Powered Credit Card Calculator	Ea		5.95	
CC191	Compact Wallet Calculator—Battery Operated	Ea		7.95	
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CC1900	Professional Desk-Top Auto Recall Calculator, Adjustable Display, Battery Operated	Ea		19.95	
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I would like to thank our volunteers for all their work.

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Closings Comments

Special thanks to following BCS Staff; Janet Cole, Publications Manager - Janet was instrumental, as she always is, in getting the Summer J-BUG Newsletter out at the last minute, to insure that everyone would receive it before the AtariFest; to Martha Healy, Office Manager - her indispensable help in mailing, ordering our T-shirts with Moonlight, arranging for the Temporary membership cards, etc, etc; Joanne Dana, Comptroller, for her patience, level-headedness and cool; Pam Bybell, Manager Member Services - I'm not sure what Pam did, but I want to thank her anyway (she is my boss at the BCS). I would also like to thank the following CENTRUM staff for their cooperation, guidance, and patience - Sandi Dunn, our contact at the CENTRUM ; Peter Caruso and George who handle floor operations and the entire CENTRUM security team. Thanks to Rick Nable, our contact at Special Event Rentals, our decorator. Thanks to Mark Duesel of Merlin Transportation, who handled our drayage and labor. Thanks to Darlene Sullivan and Bob

Keezer of Moonlight Ltd. for making our BCS T-shirts at the last minute (they got the order Monday afternoon and had the shirts ready Thursday morning on my way to Worcester. Thanks to Gary Domestico and the Woodside Press for making up our temporary membership cards. A special thanks to Ron Whelan for arranging our money bag drop off at the Bank of New England Worcester. Thanks to Mark Dulcey, editor of the A-BUG Newsletter for publishing my first five Bulletin Board reports and sending the A-BUG Newsletter to the J-BUG membership. A special thank you to David Sheibley and Vance Chin for helping me with my flat tire (in my absence) during the pouring rain on Sunday, I am very indebted to them.

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My most important thanks and appreciation goes to all of you who attended The Northeast Atari Computer Fair and made it the success that it was.

Stay tuned next issue for my report on the GOOD, the BAD, and the Ugly. This will be my official report to the membership.

I must admit a strangeness in writing this report. Usually, my articles are the last to be written after I put the entire newsletter together. Therefore, I know what is to follow. This time, and for now on, I must wing it.

On Monday, following the AtariFest, I spent 2 1/2 hours with Sig Hartmann, the Executive Vice President of Atari. I had a delightful time with Sig and we covered a lot of ground. The next Tuesday, following our General Meeting, Sig was kind enough to spend another 2 1/2 hours with several of J-BUG's officers. Basically Sig informed us of the many products being shown at COMDEX. These products include the MEGA Series, the SLM804 Laser, the MegaFile 20 and 40, the PC Compatibles (5 different versions), the CD-ROM, and the Transputer. All these products will be discussed in detail in the COMDEX Report.

On behalf of the Jackintosh BoSTon Users Group Executive Committee, I want to wish our readership and their families SEASON'S GREETINGS and a HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR. Until next time - Happy STailing. As always, now and forever...

 STACI - I LOVE YOU - DADDY

The Northeast AtariFest and a talk with Neil Harris

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by Brian A. Oliva

New England's first Atari oriented computer fair has come to a close. The two day festival held at the Centrum in Worcester, Mass. brought hundreds of Atarians together to view the latest in Atari's growing line of new equipment. Highlight's of the fair included the U.S. debut of the long awaited Mega-ST's (although none of the local dealers got their shipments in time to sell any at the show), as well as New England's first glimpse of the Atari PC. The first few hundred SX212 1200 baud modems WERE on sale, and sold out completely during the first day of the show.

In all, over 50 dealers, user groups, and publishers (and of course Atari themselves) exhibited their wares. A very high showing of MIDI hardware and software confirmed Atari's dominance in that market. Several demonstrations and concerts gave the aura of a music show, but in each case, the sounds were driven by Atari ST or 8-bit machines.

Of most interest to me was the open conference with Atari's Director of Marketing Communications, Neil Harris. Mr. Harris gave a complete update of Atari's plans and programs.

He started his pitch but giving a brief talk on the history of Atari.

"Atari today is the third incarnation of Atari", Harris pointed out. Atari was founded by Nolan Bushnell in the early 1970's, as a manufacturer of the coin-op video game "Pong." He broadened the market to introduce a home Pong game, which rapidly expanded the companies growth. Bushnell sold out to Warner Communications in 1976. At that time, the company was selling over \$40 million in sales annually. Warner expanded the video game products business, and rapidly expanded their annual sales to the \$2 BILLION mark!

Harris noted that any businessman with common sense should have realized that any company growing that fast had to be out of control. Common sense was NOT common at Atari, however, and the division continued to hire people and spend money as if that rate of sales were perpetual.

A predictable downturn in the market resulted in disaster for Atari, that left them with over a million video game machines in inventory, and a dive that had them losing over \$2 million dollars a DAY by 1984. It was at that point that Ex-Commodore head Sam Trameil rescued the floundering company.

Sam's Atari has been doing well. The company he bought in catastrophic disarray in 1984 for \$30 million is now selling at a rate of \$330 million. But it has not been easy.

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The new Atari found that the records left by their predecessor's were incomplete and inaccurate. One example was Atari's records that showed that K-Mart owed them \$6 million. K-Mart's records showed that due to returns and price decreases that they pass along as credits, Atari OWED THEM \$4 million! This one example was a \$10 million unknown. Nearly every other account was in similar condition. With a start like that, it's tough to run a company and survive, let alone run one successfully. These cases were drawn out as long as this past summer before they were all ironed out and settled. This exchange left a bitter taste on the tongues of most of the stores and chains that Atari had done business with. Many of these chains stopped carrying computer equipment, and almost all stopped doing business with Atari even if they DID continue to sell computers. Atari was faced with an extreme shortage of retail outlets which still exists today.

When Tramiel took over in 1984, a decision was made to get out of the video game market. They marked down the price of the 2600 to under \$50, and started unloading the million machines that were in inventory. They ALL sold within a year, and the demand seemed to be alive. They made a million more, and sold all of them too. It appeared that the video game market was far from dead, so new emphasis was put on releasing the 5200 and 7800 systems. They soon discovered that although they still were having trouble finding retail outlets to sell computers, they could sell all the video games they could produce. This is why Atari has just released what amounts to retrofitted 65XE computers disguised as video game machines. By rebuilding their retail outlets with video game

sales, they hope to slowly bring back the trust and cooperation that is required to rebuild the 8-bit computer market. With over 100,000 8-bit machines in inventory, Atari fully intends to support the machines. All they have to do now is get them to market so people can buy them.

That just about brings us up to today. Now we know where Atari has been, and what kind of problems they've had to solve to get where they are today. We know that the ST line has become popular and is the leading seller in many world markets. But where are they going from here? What should we expect in the future? Where will their emphasis be?

A recent news item announced that Atari had purchased a chain of computer stores in the southwest. Atari bought 65 Federated Computer Stores for just over \$67 million. Neil Harris was asked if Atari planned on expanding the chain to the northeast, since there was a definite shortage of Atari dealers in this area. Harris responded that no expansion was planned. Just like Warner Communication's Atari, Sam perceived Federated as a business capable of surviving. "It was an opportunity to grab a good deal." Harris explained that at a million dollars per store, the price was attractive, but that you can't keep spending money as if it was coming from an endless stream. When asked about Federated's existing product line, which includes virtually all of Atari's competitors, Harris commented that "We don't mind making a profit off their products if we have to." Atari is actively seeking new dealer that meet their requirements. These requirements include having a strong service department, and an active moving sales force that would seek out new business as opposed to just waiting for it to walk into the store.

Atari's current thrust is in two areas, the premium video game market with the XE series game systems, and the ST market, with the addition of the Mega-ST's. Harris was asked about the future of the Atari-PC. He responded by saying that the ST was viewed as the product of the future. Atari did plan to release the PC, perhaps before Christmas, but said that the PC was an old technology machine, and that no one at Atari was terribly excited about it. "If you insist on buying a PC, it might as well be ours", Harris stated, "but we'd prefer that you buy an ST." The current PC does not have any expansion slots, but does include an expansion port. Harris pointed out that slots cost money, and require more space, and better shielding. Harris went on to point out that many PC programs can now be run on the ST using PC Ditto, although he admitted that speed was sharply compromised. He hinted that Atari was planning an add-on box for the ST that would allow PC compatibility at full speed.

The infamous blitter upgrade is still planned, but there is still controversy as to how to do the upgrade. Atari would like to avoid soldering chips in the field, and the service department is pushing to have the upgrade consist of replacing the entire board (a board swap, actually.) This of course would not be possible for people that have soldered their own RAM upgrades into their ST's. The upgrade is expected to cost under \$125.

As mentioned previously, the Mega ST's, and SX212 modems are now shipping. Available quantities will increase daily as new shipments arrive from the factory.

More new projects are in the works, but Harris did not want to comment on them. He commented that one of the problems was that there are too many opportunities available, and it would be impossible to explore them all at once and survive. Atari is setting its priorities and taking things one step at a time. By biding their time and learning to walk before they run, Atari hopes to continue to grow in selected market areas and thrive as a supplier of personal computers.

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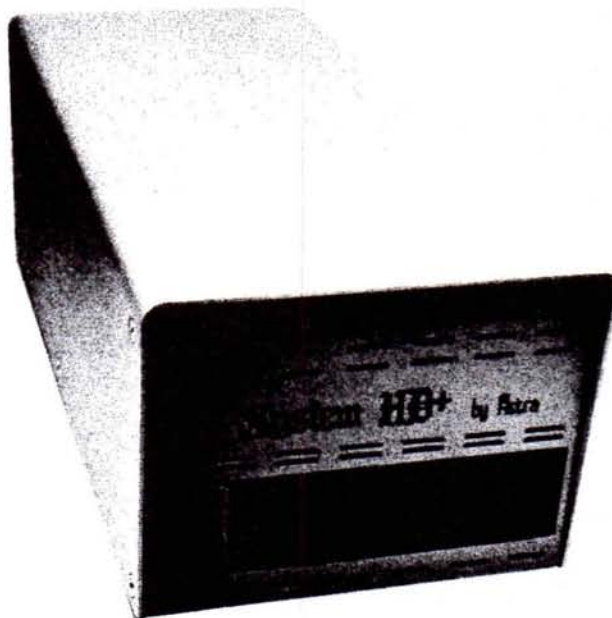
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Word Processing Seminar at the Atarifest

By Robert A Hueffman

Late this past Sunday night, (Nov. 21st), I got a call from Alan Glick of BCS fame, requesting that I write a short review of one of the seminars that I attended at the Worcester AtariFest in October. I immediately asked Alan when he needed the article, and I was really taken back when he answered real quick, say this coming Friday, because he was going to press the following Monday. My first reaction was this guy is nuts and then I decided, ok, I will see what I can do.

This will be my first attempt at writing an article, with the exception of articles for the newsletter of the Users Group that I belong to. I was in attendance at two of the seminars and will report on only one of them. The first one that I attended was on Word Processors and the second was an update of the Atari World according to Neil Harris. I was going to do a review of both seminars, but Alan told me, after I had my review completed, not to do a review of the seminar with Neil Harris. Oh well, time to delete all my glorious words.

The seminar dealing with Word-Processors was monitored by Madelon Wilson, (Editor and Chief of the STARR SCOPE newsletter of the Atari Road Runners Users Group of Connecticut). It seemed that everyone wanted to attend this seminar because the room quickly filled and the doors had to be shut when all the chairs and tables were occupied. This seminar was to be strictly a generic type seminar having to do with Word-Processors. I mention this before really getting into the review, because as Madelon introduced the two speakers Jeff Wilson, (no relation to Madelon), and Frank Cohen. Jeff, representing WordPerfect Corporation immediately started right in to a discussion of WordPerfect. This was kind of amusing because Frank Cohen was to be the first speaker and Jeff jumped right in with both feet and started to give a complete synopsis of WordPerfect. I repeat that the seminar was supposed to be on word processing and not any particular brand of software, strictly generic, but be that as it may, Jeff's talk was very interesting and enlightening. I was impressed with both WordPerfect and Jeff (Ed. I am in conflict with Bob on this matter. The Seminar was named WORD PROCESSING FOR THE POWER USER - Panel includes representatives from WordPerfect Corp.

Frank was asked as an after thought). I believe the reason for the confusion was because Jeff was really excited about WordPerfect and it was first introduced at this show. Jeff went through a quick, but thorough review of WordPerfect, which covers everything that a word processor should have to be complete.

I learned later, in fact much later, that Jeff was one third of the programming team that developed WordPerfect, which explains the reason for his excitement. Granted Jeff's talk on word-processing was interesting but there are other programs involved in the world of word-processing, too numerous to list here.

The next speaker was Frank Cohen, representing Regent Software (Ed. author of Regent Word I and Regent Word II), and he straighten us all out and kept his talk to a generic talk on word-processing and tried not to mention his company's products. Both Jeff and Frank spoke of what a word-processor should have, to make it a good working tool and I think everyone was in agreement. Frank made us all aware that they are many faucets of word processing. One of the newest forms is DeskTop Publishing. I, for one,

never really thought of DeskTop Publishing as a word processor, but it really is. Frank started his talk with the basic word processor that allowed you to type a letter and print it out on some type of printer. The basic word processor really had no means of editing and what you saw is what you got. Editing was a very difficult process. As the world of word processors started to grow up and they became more and more complicated and encompassing more editing features that allowed the writer to do a complete job on what ever type project he was working on. The present day word processors can accomodate the novice to the expert. A person can write a letter or memo and a writer of novels can do an entire book using one of the many word processors that are now on the market.

All in all, both speakers did a good job and everyone went away with a good working knowledge of what word processing is all about and also now know what to look for when going out to purchase a word processor for his or her computer.

(Ed. Bob is President of The ST Atari Road Runners.)

True Basic Seminar

by Jerry Feldman

The True BASIC seminar was presented by Adam Weber who is the Development Manager for the Atari port of the product. Most of the participants in the seminar were people who were very knowledgeable about the basic language and True BASIC. We discussed portability, windows, contagious floating point and some of the add-on packages.

Portability is one of the primary goals of True Basic. A program written in True BASIC on an Atari ST should be able to run without modification on an IBM PC or a Macintosh.

We had a rather lengthy technical discussion on True BASIC Windows. Again, many of the features were influenced by the portability criteria. Within a window, the program can redefine the window coordinates. Once the program establishes its coordinates, the program can use these, True BASIC will perform the appropriate scaling. All plotting is performed relative to these coordinates. The program can also inquire about what the coordinate size of the window as well as the size in text lines and columns. Text can be plotted according to the graphics coordinates as well as the standard print statements.

All True BASIC numbers are floating

point numbers, however, they use a technique called "contagious floating point". Numbers are maintained in their integer form until some calculation causes those numbers to become floating point. Once a number becomes floating point, all other numbers used in expressions with that number then catch the floating point disease.

True BASIC also has several add-on packages, such as a math toolkit, developer's toolkit, advanced string library, 3D Graphics and more. Most of these libraries are provided to the customer along with the source code for these libraries. The developer's toolkit contains interfaces to GEM VDI and AES, as well as a GEM windows interface which makes using GEM windows very simply.

I have used various Basic's for the past 20 years, while I am generally a detractor of the language, I find True BASIC to be a good platform for developing applications. I also found the people at True BASIC to be friendly and willing to answer most questions.

(Ed. Jerry is a software engineer and Treasurer of BCS J-BUG.)

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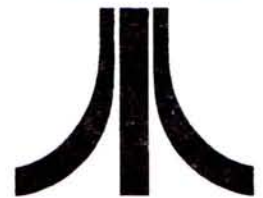
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ATARI®



NEW PRODUCT NEWS

FALL COMDEX 1987 EDITION

NEW ADVANCED SYSTEMS ARE HITS AT FALL SHOW

LAS VEGAS, NV. -- In a series of major product introductions, Atari Corporation emerges as a maker of a complete line of high-performance, low-cost solutions for the business, engineering and personal computing worlds.

New technology is showcased by ABAQ, an ultra-high-performance workstation with blazing speed and dazzling graphics. ABAQ, based on a sophisticated transputer chip, runs more than 10 times faster than the PC/AT and more than 4 times faster than the 68020 with math coprocessor. The parallel processing capability of ABAQ lets a single system multiply its processing power by adding extra transputer chips.

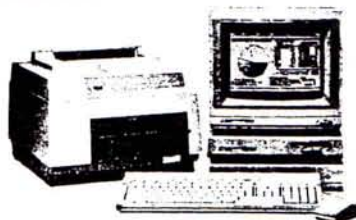
Atari unveiled its new CD player capable of reading CD-ROM disks and playing all commercially available CD music disks. The CD-ROM is supported by a MEGA and ST compatible DMA interface, and will retail for only \$599.

Atari's connectivity system for the ST, Mega, and PC computers is compatible with the NETBIOS standard used by IBM and Novell. It communicates data at 1 megabits-per-second to Atari computers and to PC compatibles and over 250K bits-per-second over Appletalk over a second independent channel.

The Atari MEGA computers are featured with a variety of solid business solutions.

At Atari, desktop publishing is represented by both the Atari SLM804 Laser Printer and Deskset by G.O. Graphics. G.O. Graphics is currently porting this Compugraphic compatible program for marketing by Atari.

The top two word processors from the PC world are now compatible with the ST and Mega. Word Perfect is displaying, the now shipping, Word Perfect for both the Atari ST and MEGA computers. Word Perfect ST has all the features of the PC version, supports the mouse and windows, and runs faster than the PC version. Microsoft Write is also on display. Write is a direct port of Microsoft Word 1.05 for the Macintosh.



Atari's new MEGA with Laser Printer.

A group of third party vendors are appealing to the MEGA and ST VAR market with vertical packages running under IDRIS, the multi-user/multitasking operating system. Several new high-end CAD packages are on display including Foresight's Drafix-1. Desktop video is

represented by several powerful products from Sony and from Antic Software. Additional MEGA and ST software products are being displayed in other Comdex booths.

Atari expanded its PC-compatible offerings by adding two new models available in several configurations. The PC2 (PC/XT compatible) comes with EGA graphics, high clock speeds, and 5 XT style slots. The PC4 (PC/AT compatible) features EGA and VGA graphics, an even higher clock speed and AT style slots. Both sport low price tags. The PC2 and PC4 will be offered in a number of different internal disk drive configurations including combinations of hard disk and 3.5" or 5.25" floppy disks. These new models join the PC1, which is a basic PC/XT compatible, suitable for use as a LAN workstation and for standalone personal computing.

By closing the gaps in computer technology, Atari Corporation has once again taken the computer industry lead. With the introduction of the ABAQ, the CD-ROM, the PC line, the LAN, and the continued support of the existing Atari MEGA and ST computers with new peripheral and software products, Atari has proven that regardless of the computing needs, we have the answer.

REVOLUTIONARY COMPUTER MAKES DEBUT

LAS VEGAS, NV. -- At Fall Comdex '87, Atari announced a new addition to its growing computer product line. Called ABAQ, the new computer is based on the revolutionary transputer chip. ABAQ is the first parallel processing, high-performance, personal workstation of its kind.

With ABAQ, advances in applications such as desktop publishing and CAD will be phenomenal. Full page displays will

move desktop publishing into another realm. The solid and wire frame modeling graphics capabilities will bring 3-D CAD rendering and rotation up to levels that previously desktop computers could not have performed. The better than broadcast quality resolution will allow nearly photographic quality graphics. This feature alone will have a tremendous impact on the film, television and video industries

ability to computer generate special effects.

The screen resolutions available for ABAQ are very important. All screen resolutions are 60 HZ, portrait quality. The highest mode is 1280 X 960 (4 bit/pixel) color. This resolution is excellent for engineering drawings, desktop publishing, and film, television or video special effects work. The second resolution is 1024 X

Continued on page 31

ATARI INTRODUCES CONNECTIVITY

LAS VEGAS, NV. -- In today's computing environment, connectivity can be a genuine issue. As part of the overall Atari solution to computing problems, Atari introduced "PromiseLAN", a network system for the MEGA, ST, and PC.

PromiseLAN currently offers a new simplicity to the usually complicated task of networking. PromiseLAN can network 17 PCs in a star configuration using off-the-shelf telephone wire. No special cabling is necessary. Later versions of PromiseLAN software will offer full multi-drop systems.

Compatibility in connectivity is a justifiable concern. PromiseLAN provides full compatibility to IBM standards using NETBIOS. NETBIOS stands for Network Basic Input and Output System, and allows full compatibility to IBM computers and software. The PromiseLAN NETBIOS is a proprietary design that provides the utilities which send data to and receive data from the network adaptor cards.

The cards contain a proprietary chipset us-

ing very large scale integration (VLSI), which includes NETBIOS to support the standard IBM network operating system. Equally important, PromiseLAN provides an interface to AppleTalk. This allows the connection of Macintoshes to the PC network.

PromiseLAN also will provide record-locking. This operation excludes other users from accessing (or writing to) a record in a file while another user is accessing the same record. This is a necessity when common databases are used between computers.

Future PromiseLAN interface units will be developed for the Atari MEGA and ST computers. At that point, Atari MEGA computers with laser printers as desktop publishing systems could exchange data with a satellite group of Atari PCs as LAN stations. This system configuration would create an entire office environment where the 8088 world and 68000 world exist in perfect harmony.

CD-ROM/CD-AUDIO A SHOW STOPPER

LAS VEGAS, NV. -- Fall Comdex '87 saw the introduction of Atari's first CD-ROM/CD-Audio player. The 12 cm optical disc, originally developed for digital audio, can now be used to store over 540 megabytes of data. Atari has added audio playback capabilities to the CD-ROM, giving it the ability to play back normal audio Compact Discs at exceptionally high fidelity.

Since only light touches the data surface, an optical disc will not wear out. Error detection and correction methods safeguard the integrity of the information. Moreover, discs can be replicated at low cost, producing databases that are suitable for mass distribution.

The Atari CD can be connected to a Atari MEGA or ST computer for immediate on-line access to huge databases, to a stereo system for audiophile quality sound, or to both for computer aided instruction or entertainment. Commercial and governmental databases are available for business, medicine, law, library databases

and science.

The data retrieval capacity of the CD-ROM is revolutionary. Five hundred and forty megabytes of data corresponds to over 1000 typical floppy disks or over 200,000 pages of printed material or thousands of images or hours of spoken text.

Styled to match the existing Atari computer product lines, the Atari CD hosts a number of special features. A front-loading drawer design permits stacking the unit with other equipment. The front panel controls are on a removable infrared remote control unit allowing the audio functions to be controlled from across the room. A front panel stereo headphone jack with volume control is provided for private listening or education applications.

The computer control of audio functions includes the independent selection of left and right channels to support multiple audio programs. The CD by Atari - the newest in CD-ROM/CD-Audio players.

ATARI DESKSET: A PROFESSIONAL DESKTOP TYPOGRAPHY SYSTEM

LAS VEGAS, NV. -- At Fall Comdex '87, Atari introduced DeskSet, the professional software solution to desktop typesetting. Designed to work with the Atari SLM804 and the Atari MEGA4 Computer, DeskSet is the first laser typesetting system to include typesetting refinements required by typographers.

Professional features like automatic hyphenation and justification, character pair kerning, automatic character compensation and multiple exception hyphenation dictionaries are built into the software at no additional cost.

DeskSet eliminates the need for expensive processors, chemicals, photo paper and paste-up. Now you can achieve final output direct from your SLM804.

DeskSet is expandable to include graphics files scanned in from low cost scanners or created with many graphics programs. DeskSet gives a true What-you-see-is-what-you-get preview with graphics, using the actual printed fonts. Only DeskSet offers this versatility in a low cost laser printer system.

DeskSet does not require a standalone word processing program. It contains a powerful text editor. However, DeskSet will also accept ASCII files created with most MEGA or ST word processing programs.

DeskSet was developed by G.O. Graphics, a multi-million dollar company that has built more communications and conversion systems for typesetters than all other manufacturers combined.

With the introduction of DeskSet, Atari delivers a desktop system with professional power typesetting. The Atari MEGA (or ST computer), the SLM804 Laser Printer and DeskSet provide a comprehensive, professional desktop typesetting system that can solve any publishing need. Professional typesetters, business men and the casual publisher now have a high performance, low cost solution for every publishing problem.

MICROSOFT WRITE INTRODUCED FOR THE ATARI MEGA AND ST COMPUTERS

LAS VEGAS, NV. --Microsoft Write by Microsoft Corporation has just joined the growing ranks of high performance word processors for the Atari MEGA and ST computers. Used in conjunction with the Atari SLM804 Laser Printer, it provides yet another Atari desktop publishing solution.

Microsoft Write is powerful enough to handle complex business reports, yet simple enough for casual memos and letters. It adapts easily to writing and formatting requirements, so you can concentrate on what is important, writing and designing documents.

Microsoft Write has all the standard text generation, editing and formatting features; copy, cut and paste; plus: set page size, margins, and tabs by inch, centimeter, pitch or point; create footnotes with any reference mark; paginate automatically with numbers, roman numerals, or letters; print characters in bold, italic, underline, superscript, subscript or different sizes and fonts; create form letters or combine documents with a variety of print merge commands and create headers for the top or bottom of the page that print on odd, even and/or first pages.

Write also includes extra features that make word processing tasks easier and more productive. You can: display and work with multiple documents or parts of the same document simultaneously; choose from a variety of font styles (available with Atari GDOS); create glossaries of frequently used text that can be inserted with just a few keystrokes, control page breaks by selecting lines or paragraphs to stay together on a page and print text in columns.

Pull-down menus, help screens, and mouse or key control are all part of the exceptionally well designed user interface. Microsoft Write will be marketed by Atari. Teamed with the Atari MEGA computer and the Atari SLM804, the desktop production of clean, professional documents becomes an easy task.

ATARI DESKTOP PUBLISHING SYSTEM

LAS VEGAS, NV. --The Atari SLM804 Laser Printer and the Atari MEGA or ST computers are one of the most advanced and versatile laser printing systems on the market today. For desktop publishing or writing the simplest letter, the Atari SLM804 Laser Printer delivers near typeset quality text and graphics quickly and easily.

Both the MEGA and the ST support the laser printer by building a page image in memory, then sending it to the laser printer over the DMA bus. This method cuts down on the time between pages. All laser printer manufacturers talk about "pages per minute." What is equally important is the build time per page and the transfer time per page. The DMA port allows data to be transferred at the full speed of the printer. Since the SLM804 uses the main computer's processor and memory, there is no need to receive the page, build it and then print it; the process of page building is much faster. The page is only built once, transferred and printed. It does not have to be built, transferred, accepted, rewritten or rebuilt and then printed. This is a significant time saving.

Another advantage of the SLM804 Laser Printer is memory. It has none. Because most other laser printers have a processor, they also have memory, which generally proves insufficient for the task at hand. To

do full page bit mapped graphics, a laser printer -any laser printer- must have a minimum of 1 meg of memory. Since most laser printers have only 512K or less of memory, memory upgrade kits must be purchased. Memory upgrade kits are expensive. The SLM804 uses the memory of the MEGA or the ST. With the 2 or 4 megabyte MEGA computer there is more than enough memory for graphics. And graphics are what desktop publishing is all about.

Font flexibility is yet another advantage of the SLM804. Most other laser printers have fonts in hardware. This limits the number of available fonts to the number resident in the machine or in some cases to the number that can be placed in a cartridge. The extra font cartridges are expensive, and again, limited to the number of cartridges available.

The SLM804 fonts are software fonts. There is no limit to their number, types or design. Since they are in software they can be much less expensive and can be designed by anyone. A feature not possible with most laser printer.

It is difficult to compare the SLM804 with any other laser printer. Since most other laser printers are hardware limited, their natures are fixed. The nature of the SLM804 is flexible. It can grow with you.

POWERFUL HARD DRIVES FOR MEGA SERIES

LAS VEGAS, NV. --The latest peripherals for the Atari MEGA computer line were introduced at Fall Comdex '87. They include a new line of hard disk drives called MEGA FILE.

MEGA FILE 20 The MEGA FILE 20 (20 megabyte) hard disk is the foundation of the Atari MEGA computer hard disk product line. Its specially designed case allows it to fit directly under the MEGA CPU. It also has an extra Atari 19 pin DMA connector for daisy-chaining.

MEGA FILE 40 The MEGA FILE 40 is

the 40 megabyte hard disk drive for the MEGA computer. Its case is also designed to fit directly under the MEGA CPU. Like the MEGA FILE 20 it is color coordinated to compliment the professional styling of the MEGA system configuration. It also has an extra Atari 19 pin DMA connector for daisy chaining.

Both the MEGA FILE 20 and MEGA FILE 40 are also fully compatible with the Atari ST line of computers.

Continued from page 28

786 (8 bits/pixel) color. This resolution will be beneficial in any CAD, color picture or graphic work. The 640 X 480 (8 bits/pixel /2 screen) resolution is perfect for animation work. The lowest resolution is 512 X 480 (32 bits/pixel 24 bits/true color plus overlay & tag bits). This resolution may be utilized for finely shaded pictures.

Additional ABAQ advantages include the ability to create a processor farm of upwards of 1000 processors, SCSI drive support, and a floating point processor built into the transputer chip.

The built-in floating point processor in itself is a great advantage. ABAQ offers calculating speeds a single processor workstation can't. The effect of these calculating speeds on any number of applications will be enormous.

AB AQ provides for the addition of up to three internal expansion cards. These cards may include up to 64 megabytes of addressable DRAM, or different graphics cards for specialty applications. The three

add-on cards may be configured as 12 + 1 transputers which would provide 130 MIPS or about 20 Mflops in a desktop package. The full buss and appropriate links are available. It also provides connections to parallel processor farms and links to fast peripherals such as a laser printer, disc server etc.

The ABAQ operating system is HELIOS. A multi-processor, multi-user, sympathetic to transputer architecture and familiar to Unix users. The user interfaces include X-Windows (Vers. 11), GEM-VDI driver, GEM under Windows and Shell. ABAQ works with the Atari MEGA Computer.

AB AQ utilizes a high performance transputer microprocessor with a reduced instruction set, capable of delivering computer power in excess of ten times a PC/AT. It is the most powerful single chip computer in the world.

Although the ABAQ transputer chip has a reduced instruction set, its instruction set goes beyond the traditional RISC (Reduced Instruction Set Computer). The

AB AQ transputer chip consists of a small core instruction set surrounded by collections of application specific instructions. Perhaps its key feature is the ability of the transputer to allow 100 or more transputers to connect together to provide a low-cost desktop computer with the power of a supercomputer.

With the advent of powerful 32-bit microprocessors, and advances in graphics hardware, a new generation of affordable powerful personal workstations has become possible. The systems will, it is predicted, provide an order of magnitude better price/performance than any personal computer currently being sold.

Using the transputer as the heart of ABAQ not only allows the production of a cost-effective advanced personal workstation, it also provides the ability to be able to plug in more power as needed. Such systems sets new standards in computing, providing solutions that previously required expensive mainframes, all on one desk.

ATARI INTRODUCES PC CLONE LINE

LAS VEGAS, NV. --Building on the introduction of an earlier Atari PC computer, Atari introduced a full line of PC compatible computers. Engineered to exacting standards, Atari adds what only Atari can - higher technology, all the options and better performance. At highly competitive prices. Value.

PC1 The Atari PC1 has a higher clock speed than most clones, running at a top speed of 8 MHz. For those software programs that are speed dependent, there is a software switch which sets the clock speed to the standard 4.77 MHz.

Through custom ICs the Atari PC1 provides EGA, CGA, Hercules, and monochrome capability without costly and confusing additions. Value.

The Atari PC1 comes with the PCM124 amber monitor. Unlike most monochrome monitors, the PCM124 can display up to 16 shades (of amber). The maximum screen resolution is 720 X 348.

The PC1 also works with any CGA,

MDA, EGA or multi-frequency monitor. Maximum color screen resolution of the Atari PC1 is 640 X 350. The color palette is 64 with a maximum of 16 on the screen at a time. Most popular clones have a color palette of only 16 and can only display 4 colors at a time.

The 256K dedicated display RAM makes the entire 512K of system RAM available. If even more RAM is needed, the Atari PC1 is expandable to 640K. The board also has a socket for an optional 8087 math coprocessor.

The Atari PC1 comes with a 5.25" internal drive. It can support up to 3 disk drives. The Atari PC1 will have a networking card running at 1 megabits per second (NETBIOS compatible).

The Atari PC1 comes with a mouse and a built-in mouse port. Other features include a parallel port, RS232 serial port, and an AT keyboard layout.

PC2 The Atari PC2 has all the features of the Atari PC2 and then some. It features

5 XT style internal slots for add-on cards, a real-time battery backed-up clock and room for internal mounting a hard disk drive or two floppy drives.

PC4 The Atari PC4 is an 80286 microprocessor based IBM PC/AT compatible machine. It features a selectable clock speed of either 8 or 12 MHz, VGA compatible video and has 4 AT style expansion slots, up to 1 megabyte of system RAM and is ready for an 80287 numeric coprocessor. Like the PC4, it also has a real-time battery backed-up clock.

The PC2 and PC4 can include any combination of 3.5", 5.25" or hard drives. The PC1 can use external drives only.

The Atari line of PC compatible Personal Computers offers all the features possible. Built-in, standard, ready to plug in and go. If IBM PC compatibility is important, then the Atari line of IBM compatible Personal Computers is the only alternative. Atari PCs - the best value in the IBM world.

Computer Users Testify Against Fee Increase Proposed by FCC

By Deborah Mesce
The Associated Press

BOSTON. Thousands of computer users, from hobbyists to doctors, would be driven off their electronic networks if the Federal Communications Commission imposes higher telephone fees on them, opponents of the plan told a congressional panel Friday. The harm to computer users and to the infant information services industry would be far greater than the slight reduction in long-distance rates that might result, they told a House Energy and Commerce subcommittee. Schools would be forced to cut back their use of electronic data bases for research, said John Stuckey, director for academic computing at Northeastern University. Cutbacks also would be forced at hospitals, where doctors rely on computerized medical data basis for quick reference, said Jacqueline Bastille, director of the medical library at Massachusetts General Hospital. In addition, many of the approximately 750,000 home computer users would be driven away from the electronic networks where they read stock reports and news stories, call up airline schedules, and even line up blind dates, said Richard tenEyck of The Boston Computer Society, the largest computer group in the country, with 25,000 members nationwide.

FCC Chairman Dennis R. Patrick, however, testified that fairness is the basis of the proposal to raise telephone fees paid by information service providers. The fees, called access charges, are already paid by long-distance callers, he said. "If we exempt one category of users, that means another category of users will have to pay more," he said. "It's not clear to me it

is appropriate in an equity sense if it increases the amount borne by low-income voice users."

Computer users said electronic information services are already paying their share of phone network costs in a flat-rate surcharge per customer. The access charges are levied on long-distance phone companies to help pay the cost of maintaining the local phone network. The long-distance companies pass these charges on to callers in their rates.

Floyd H. Trogdon, vice president of Telenet Communications Corp., a computer network that connects computer users with information data bases, said the access charges would raise some of its off-peak rates by 500 percent. He estimates that access charges from the computer industry would lower long-distance rates by less than one half of one percent.

The FCC, when it adopted the access charge system in 1982, exempted information service providers from the fees because of the fear that the new industry would not withstand the sudden increase in costs. Now, the FCC believes, it may be time to lift the exemption, but Patrick said the computer industry's opposition to the proposal has not been lost on him. *(Ed. I spoke to Dick tenEyck the other day. The BCS had been considering whether they should take stands on specific issue and it's non-tax standing. Dick informed me that he got a call from the IRS. It seems they too use network services, and they asked for his assistance in this matter.)*



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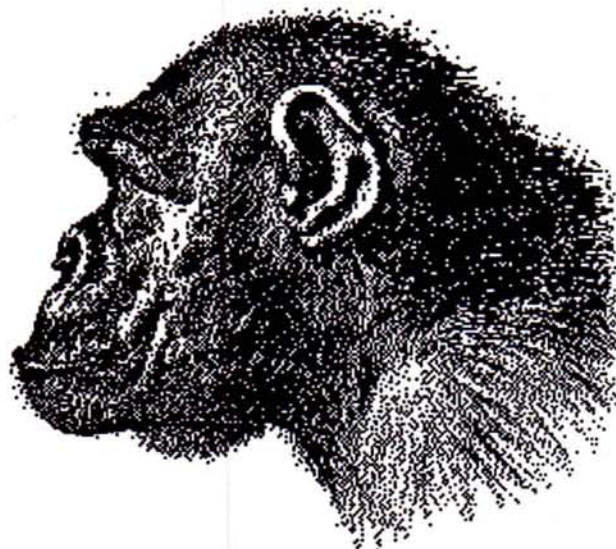
Hello There! (or a few words from a tired {all} night Editor)

by Bill Leishman

As the new Managing Editor of the J-Bug Newsletter, I hope to make our newsletter more appealing to the eye while maintaining and improving upon the content. I hope I will have the support of ALL of the members of the club so that we can be represented by the best user group newsletter in the country.

I have a good system of hardware and software to both make my job of putting the final product together and your job of putting together an article easier. I have a mono 1040, and if Santa thinks I have been good (or I get my Christmas Bonus) I will see a color monitor under my tree. For software I have three word processors (WordWriter ST, ST Writer and 1ST Word), Publishing Partner, Degas Elite, and most of the public domain programs that would be applicable. I also have an IMG Scan for non-computer graphics.

I am intending to publish J-BUG bi-monthly. To do this, I will need regular columns, feature and review articles, and Special Interest Group reports, and am hoping to add a News & Notes section. Graphics, drawings, photos, art, and other visual material should also be a part of any publication, and can be a part of every article.



I would also like any graphic material you have that could go with your article, such as:

- Your picture (regular columnists, officers)
- Front cover of the program box (reviews)
- Saved screen from the program
- Charts, graphs, etc.
- Pictures
- Any visual item appropriate to your article

With my IMG Scan, a good quality Xerox copy of any of the above can be included. I will be using Publishing Partner to layout and print (on a BCS laser) J-BUG, so any screen resolution picture in Degas, Neochrome, IFF, or TINY format is acceptable!

The following will also be very much appreciated:

- High quality computer art (for front covers)
- Original cartoons (hand or computer drawn)
- Photos (Xeroxed) of your system layout
- Etc.

You can submit material to me in the following ways:

- 1) Upload to the BCS Atari BBS (396-4607) (ST-Sig (4))
- 2) By mail (disks, art, etc.) to:
Bill Leishman
245 Garden St #4
Cambridge, MA 02138

If you would like to talk or have a message for me, leave it on the BBS, write, or call (617)-491-5438. I do have extremely variable hours at my job, so I would appreciate no call between 10:00AM and 11:00 PM ONLY (and don't expect me to be at there the same time the next time).

I would like to hear any ideas you have for articles or in general concerning the newsletter, because the newsletter is FOR YOU. Let us all make it the BEST it can be.

Just a reminder for the Next issue:
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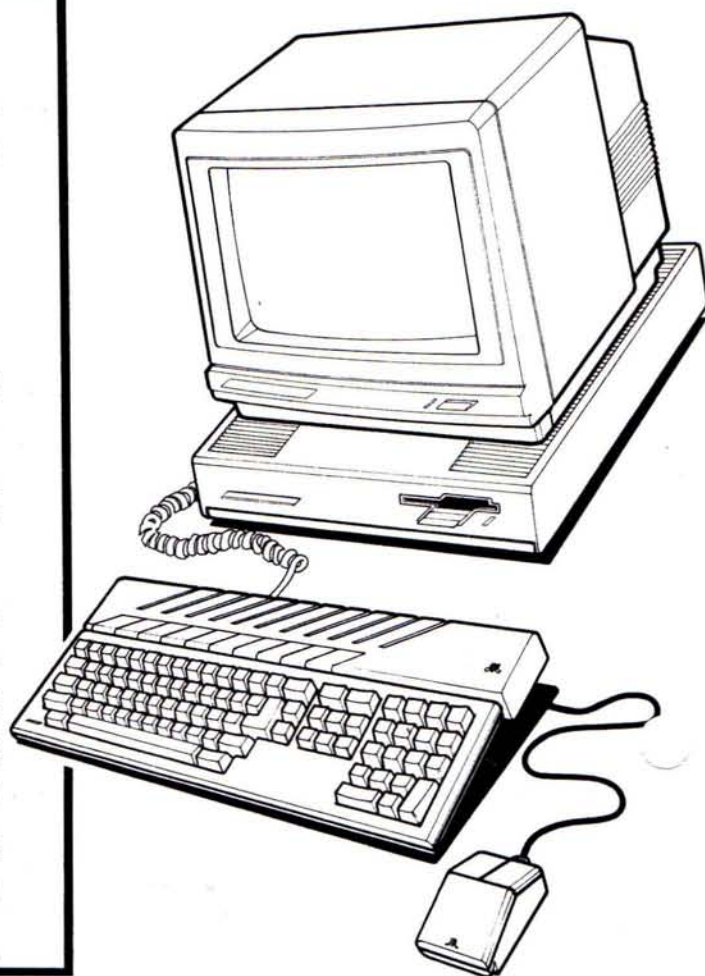
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MEGAMAX, INC.	27
MIGRAPH, INC.	8
MIGRAPH, INC.	16
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PROCO PRODUCTS	33
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